

THE Shakerite

Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, OH 44120

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INSIDE...



Swimming teams
dive into new season

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Field hockey wins State

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF

Sports Editor

It is time to put Shaker's dusty record books aside, for the latest entry deserves a volume of its own.

The varsity field hockey team marched onto the field in Dublin a week ago Saturday and scooped up the state championship crown by beating Hudson, 2-0.

It was the team's first-ever title after unsuccessful tries in 1978 and 1987.

"It's a wonderful feeling to come back and win it all," said Coach Linda Betley, who has led Shaker's field hockey team into post-season play four times: 1979, 1986, 1987 and 1991.

Sophomore left wing Ashley McWilliams scored the game's first goal, set up by senior co-captain Laura Melograno.

In the second half, Melograno sealed the victory with her 21st goal of the season, assisted by co-captain senior Jennifer Hughes.

"We knew how [Hudson] plays," Melograno said. "They had beaten us earlier in the year, 2-0."

Betley said that Hudson, which has won the state title twice, in 1984 and 1986, did not play the game with as much intensity as in the past.

"They didn't play up to par as they could have," she said. "But it was sweet when we beat them."

Senior left halfback Leah Thornton said the title was a perfect culmination of a long season.

"It was well deserved and a result of hard work and dedication toward the team's goal," she said.

In the finals the day before, the team managed to slip past Columbus School for Girls (CSG), 3-2, in overtime.

Shaker took a 1-0 lead when Melograno scored with 21 minutes left in the first half.

Thirteen minutes later, McWilliams fired the ball past the goalkeeper, increasing Shaker's lead to 2-0. Columbus School for Girls evened the score in the second half, forcing overtime.

"During overtime, it was seven players aside for each team," Hughes said. "It was really tiring and we were running out of breath."

The extra session did not last long, though, as Hughes scored on a penalty shot that rocketed into the left corner.

"After the goal, it all seemed so right," Thornton said.

According to Hughes, her game-winner boosted her

confidence, especially after watching the team lose its lead.

"Toward the end, I got down on myself but then worked on getting my confidence back," she said.

The game brought back memories of the 1987 tournament in which Shaker lost to CSG. Shaker was winning 1-0 in that game, but CSG won on two goals in the last five minutes, Hughes said. Coincidentally, Hughes' sister, Hillary, scored Shaker's lone goal in that match.

According to team members, many factors contributed to their unrivaled success.

"Everyone became close on the team this year and determined to do it," senior Joanna Moore said. "We've never been as close as this year."

Melograno, whose 40 goals during her three-year varsity career earned her third place on Shaker's all time scoring list, said that Betley was the key to their motivation.

"She was so easy to get along with and let us do what we wanted to do," she said.

Thornton cited Betley's recognition of the team's weak points as a link to their success.

"[Betley] was sensitive to what we needed to work on," she said.

Even superstition strengthened the team, whose mascot was a shovel.

"[Before the last game], we turned off the lights in the locker room and screamed 'we are the champs!'" Hughes said.

Betley also showed her brand of superstition by wearing the same red velour sweatpants to each game.

According to Thornton, fans and parents were instrumental to psychologically uplifting the team.

"Without the support, there's no way we could've won," she said. "I wish I could write thank-you notes to everyone."

The enthusiasm and pride engulfed the parents as well, who were quick to praise the team.

"They played their own game and were really focused," said Carol McWilliams, Ashley's mother. "They were just dynamite."

The idea of winning it all was not a definitive reality to the players in the beginning of the season, but Betley was determined to capture the title.

"I was going to the state tournament with or without them," she said.

This being her last year, Melograno had advice for next year's players.

"Don't think about States until it happens," she said. "Take everything day by day."



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS. Seniors Laura Melograno and Jennifer Hughes celebrate their victory over Hudson in the state championship game. Shaker won the game 2-0 with goals by Melograno and sophomore Ashley McWilliams.

Photo courtesy of James Kleinman

Malvern condominium rezoning issue fails

BY JONAS GREEN

Staff Reporter

Voters failed to pass the referendum to rezone Malvern School, thus forcing the city to look into other options for the space.

For 5 years, the grounds have been unused, except for recreational use. The city wanted to sell the land to a private developer to build \$400,000 luxury condominiums.

The city commissioned four different committees to explore the issue, and each had recommended that the land be sold to the developer.

However, the Committee for Shaker Open Space (CSOS) petitioned for a city referendum. CSOS wants the land turned into a recreational facility. Although 1/2 acre on the lot would have been kept as public land for recreation, CSOS chairman Tom Abelson said the committee felt that

would not be enough space. It believes that there is not enough open space in Shaker anyway, and with the sale of Malvern, children in Shaker will have nowhere to play.

CSOS member Lois Goulder doesn't want spot rezoning in Shaker. Spot rezoning is the technical term for taking a piece of public land in any neighborhood and selling it for private use.

"There is very little open public land in Shaker; that is why we don't want Malvern sold, it is one of the few pieces of public land left in Shaker," said Goulder.

According to councilman Alan Melamed, every member of city council disagreed with Goulder. He does not want a recreational area there, for he feels it would be too costly.

"Obviously the voters have shown they don't want condominiums," Melamed said. "But recreational facilities would be extremely expensive, and we don't have the

funds."

Like many other residents in the Malvern area, senior Charlie Martin, doesn't like the idea of condos.

"I'm very much opposed to turning [Malvern] into condominiums," Martin said before the vote. "Shaker is a city that says it is committed to its children, and it's important to save that area for the kids. I still go up there and use [the facilities]. If condos go up there, there'd be 1/2 acre of land for recreation, and I can hit a baseball further than [that]."

Carol Ahern, a resident of the area and a Shaker mother, feels that a playground is a necessity, but likes the idea that condominiums will bring in more taxes.

City councilwoman Judy Rawson, like all the incumbents, favored condominiums.

"My feeling now," stated Rawson, "is that we need to take a look at every possibility. I respect the people's decision not to have condos. But before a recreational facility

is built, I would have a commission look into it."

Councilwoman and mayor-elect Patricia Mearns is totally opposed to a recreational facility.

"Traffic for a recreational facility would be heavy," Mearns said. "There isn't enough space in the parking lot there for so many cars, and redoing the parking lot would be extremely expensive."

Another option for the building, brought up by members of the condo opposition, would be to make it a private school.

Sophomore Shayna Roth is opposed to condominiums, and likes the idea of another school there.

"It should be reopened as a school," Roth said. "A private school would be okay. I like how the neighborhood is quiet. A Recreational facility would make it noisy."

Majority of students favor all-school assemblies

Based on a Shakerite survey of 200 students



Yes: 89% **No: 11%**

Are you in favor of having all-school assemblies?

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2 - We are going to the all-school assembly
2 - We are not going to the all-school assembly.
Write a 500 word essay this period.

Yes: 56%

Do you believe that all-school assemblies should be mandatory for all students and teachers?

No: 44%

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Every two weeks: 20%

Every month: 54%

Every several months: 15%

Other: 11%

How often do you believe all-school assemblies should be held?

Shakerite graphics by Marshall Levin

Environmental Club protests radioactive waste dump policy

BY NANOR TABRIZI
Staff Reporter

The Environmental Club is joining other local environmental groups in protesting amendment of the Midwest Interstate Low Level Radioactive Waste Compact, which will make Ohio the disposal site of low level radioactive wastes for six other states.

The 1980 Low Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act (LLRWPA) made each state responsible for the radioactive wastes generated within its borders. It also encouraged states to form compacts for the efficient disposal of radioactive wastes.

Each state within a compact would take turns hosting the radioactive wastes of the other states for a period of 20 years. The state with the greatest amount of radioactive waste would host first.

Ohio joined the Midwest waste compact with six other states, including Michigan, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin. Michigan, with the greatest amount of radioactive waste, was designated as the first host state because it had the greatest amount of radioactive waste.

However, Michigan was too slow in locating a dump site. Therefore, the Midwest Interstate Low Level Radioactive Waste commission voted 5-2 to expel Michigan from the Midwest compact.

The Midwest commission's decision to use Ohio as a dump site has many teenagers concerned, despite the fact that the location of the dump has not been decided upon. In an effort to rally opposition to the LLRWPA in the local schools, meetings are being held to encourage school involvement in the environmental crusade.

The Shaker environmental club is protesting the radioactive waste dump by drafting petitions addressed to Governor George Voinovich.

"Right now, we're sending petitions around to protest [the decision to have the radioactive waste dump in Ohio.] Part of the reason we're doing this is to let students know more about the resolution," said senior Mike Russell, who is the president of the Environmental Club.

Many Ohio government officials remain undecided on the subject of radioactive wastes.

harmful to many peoples' health.

"It [the LLRWPA] is totally wrong. It's going to take up a lot of space. It is very disgusting and it endangers many people," Schaberg said. "We will also be getting a bad reputation from it because we are contradicting our efforts of reducing our pollution."

Others are opposing the LLRWPA because they claim that it poses a threat to people's health.

"The Federal regulators have guaranteed that a dump will leak and become exposed to the public," said Chris Trepall, co-director of the Earth Day Coalition, an organization fighting to stop the LLRWPA.

Others argue that a radioactive waste dump is not a risk to people's health and should be permitted in Ohio.

"There are 49 waste generators in Ohio. If we don't have a common facility, then we'll have to have 49 generators. In my opinion, one waste generator is better than 49," said Geanie Rinkle, chairman of the Northern Ohio Section of the American Nuclear Society.

Members of the community debated the issue of the radioactive waste dump at Beth Am Community Temple on November 12. At the session, supporters and opponents of the project held an "Earth Forum."

Other members of the panel include Ohio Attorney General Lee Fisher, Senator Eric Fingerhut, George Dawson, who is an executive assistant to Governor George Voinovich, and Gregg S. Larson, the executive director of Midwest Interstate LLRW Compact Commission.

I do believe we have some responsibility in disposing our waste. If we make the mess, then we should clean it up.

—Eric Fingerhut

"This is not an easy, yes or no question," Ohio Senator Eric Fingerhut said. "I do believe we have some responsibility in disposing our waste. If we make the mess, then we should clean it up. But until I get some answers to questions like who will pay for the disposal and who will be liable, I can't fully agree to it."

Students have varied views concerning the influence of teenagers in their opposition to the radioactive wastes.

"We [the students] can make sure everyone is aware. If we get enough people to stand behind us, then we can write letters not only to the governor, but also to our neighbors around us," freshman Environmental Club member Rebecca Schaberg said.

Most members of the Shaker Environmental Club agree that the radioactive waste dump will have a negative effect, for they are

New board members express optimism

BY JONATHAN JABLOW

Staff Reporter

Running uncontested for the two available seats on the board of education in the Nov. 5 election were Donna Whyte and incumbent Martin Kolb.

Kolb, a 13-year Shaker resident and father of three Onaway school students will serve his second term on the school board.

Kolb said that his business experience as an employee of General Electric Lighting has prepared him to serve on the school board. He feels that such skills as cost/benefit analysis, financial budgeting and goal-setting are valuable assets for a board member.

Kolb feels that the board's financial goals should include maintaining the high quality of Shaker schools.

"We need to maintain Shaker's broad spectrum of academic courses and extracurricular activities and continue to reevaluate and update them when needed," Kolb said.

Regarding the Malvern school issue, Kolb believes that the city should follow the recommendations of the committees which investigated the possible uses of Malvern.

"I don't see any strong need to vary from the recommendations of the two city task forces which investigated the issue," Kolb said. "Malvern is really not a school issue at this point and should be left up to the city."

Kolb strongly favors the leveling system. "I think leveling allows each student to reach full potential," Kolb said. "From my perspective, there are some students who need something challenging and other students who need a challenge which is less intense."

Regarding the issue of student achievement, Kolb believes that a combination of greater parent involvement and teacher support can help the school move in the right direction.

Whyte, who is currently an administrator at Cleveland State University and has never before served on a school board, believes that her job experience is among her qualifications for the board.

"I am surrounded by information on education and the problems that face educators," Whyte said.

One issue that greatly concerns Whyte is the achievement of African Americans in our school system.

"African American students in the Shaker system are not achieving up to their potential," Whyte said.

Whyte feels that peer pressure and the surrounding environment are among the reasons for many African Americans' underachievement.

"It has to become popular to achieve," Whyte said.

Whyte believes that black male students need to be exposed to more positive role models. She also sees a need for more black male teachers at the elementary school level. She strongly endorses programs such as Woodbury's Success Step and the mentoring program at the high school.

Although Whyte believes that changes need to be made in the schools, she feels that Shaker is superior to most public schools.

"Shaker has what most public school systems could want. It possesses such a wide range of programs and extracurricular activities," Whyte said.

New library computer network provides resources for faculty

BY MONICA CARTER
AND ELIEZER GURARIE

Staff Reporter

Learning Link, a public access computer interface network, was installed in the school library for the use of teachers and other faculty members last June.

Learning Link is a system which allows educators and students from area schools to communicate with each other through computers connected via phone lines to a mainframe computer at WVIZ-TV. Learning Link is part of Internet, a nationwide system with more than 20,000 members.

"The beauty of [Learning Link] is the speed with which ideas can be shared between educators nationwide," Marion Cropp, director of instructional technology at WVIZ-TV, said.

The services offered include resource databases, mail services, gateways, discussions, file libraries, and public forums. Other special software packages, like anti-drug programs and schedules of events around Cleveland, are also available.

Programming teams are always working on improving the packages offered. One such program, "The Writing Place," was organized by former Shaker theatre department member Dan Garrison.

As in most other places, the system is initially installed exclusively for the use of teachers, but with time, students may be able to become a part of the program also.

"The program began as an all-teacher organization, but when the first student pro-



LINKING UP. Librarian Lois Kaplan learns to use the newly installed Learning Links program. The public access compute interface network, installed for the use of the faculty last June, allows students from area schools to communicate with each other through computers via phone lines.

Photo by Jason Hamilton

gram became such a success, we decided to expand all of it in time," Cropp said.

Although Learning Link has existed in Ohio since 1988 and has been in Shaker for the past three months, the membership from Shaker faculty members has remained at a minimum.

"[Learning Link] hasn't been pushed enough; it's still in the growing stage," librarian Kelly Jons said. "It's still kind of new."

Nonetheless, the librarians supervising the program are optimistic for the future.

"[Learning Link] is going to get bigger

and bigger, it's going to be used a lot more, and soon teachers will realize the use of the program," Jons said.

Cropp added that membership has doubled every year since its inception, and the pace of expansion is still rapidly increasing.

"When [educators] see something fulfills their needs, they will use it," Cropp said.

In order to increase the use of the program, staff members from WVIZ-TV will hold workshops for the teachers. Also, a single phone line will be expanded in the future and more services will be added.

Teen Institute promotes drug, alcohol awareness

BY MARK SMITH

Staff Reporter

A Red Ribbon campaign aimed at encouraging drug awareness was sponsored by the Teen Institute the week of Oct. 28.

According to member Emily Dakin, the goal of the campaign was to show students how many of their fellow peers live a drug-free life.

"I think it [the campaign] helped students to realize, especially the younger students, that many of their friends don't use drugs," Dakin said.

The younger students are the people who mainly benefit from such programs, according to the vice-president of the club, sophomore Amy Carlsson.

"We help younger people," Carlsson said. "We try to prevent problems with drugs and alcohol and [to address] peer pressure."

Many Teen Institute members feel that it is difficult to address the issue of the dangers of alcohol and drugs at the high school level.

"We do work in the high school. But students here don't respond well to the group," Carlsson said.

However, Carlsson stated that the club is an essential activity for Shaker.

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-Beth Lahr, Honors Marketing Student, Class of '94.



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School board must tackle tough issues

On November 5, Martin Kolb and Donna Whyte were elected to the Shaker school board. Their uncontested election received little attention, and no real issues were discussed or debated throughout the course of the campaign. However, this does not mean that there are no big issues to discuss as to the manner in which the Shaker school system is educating its students. Now is the perfect time to recommend a direction which the school board should take in the coming years in addressing these issues.

Public relations are a big deal at Shaker. Granted, it is very important that the school district publicize its achievements and successes in order to compete and flourish. We need to convince parents to keep their children in the Shaker schools rather than sending them to private institutions which vie for potential Shaker students, and tax payers need to know that they are getting an exceptional educational product for their money. However, sometimes it seems as though there is more PR

than substance coming from the administration and the school board. Some public relations expenses, such as napkins labeled with the school logo, are nice touches and relatively inexpensive, but such expenditures add up. The board might reallocate some of this money to those areas where it would directly benefit the students and the quality of their education.

Also, in the midst of all the public posturing, certain educational issues never seem to be satisfactorily addressed. Recently, some have complained about the academic and social atmosphere at Woodbury. They feel that with academic tracking and academic and social pressure now present there, Woodbury has lost all of the feel of an elementary school. It has become more similar to the middle school, putting undue stress on students at too early an age. The board should

examine this situation to determine ways in which Woodbury could function as a true upper elementary school, without stressful academics or tracked classes. It should try to return the same feelings of innocence and school spirit which was present when elementary school in Shaker meant k-6.

At the high school there are also issues which continue to merit serious debate and consideration. Among these is the debate over course leveling. Many praise leveling because it allows students to advance at varying

degrees of difficulty depending on their particular skills and abilities. However, some students and teachers have criticized leveling for producing undue academic pressure. They have blamed the system for creating what they perceive as a high school that is fragmented and polarized academically, socially and racially. Such leveling also contributes to the lack of school spirit at the high school over the last few years. While it is a problem for the high school administration to fix, the board could provide

support and encouragement, examining this issue across the entire district.

This year, the high school has made the first steps toward establishing some form of integrated curriculum. This is a concept which should be explored by the school board on a district-wide basis as it can truly excite students about learning and tear down the barriers between subject areas.

The Shaker schools must face many important issues, both educational and financial. The district administration does an excellent job insuring that a high level of education is maintained throughout the school system. However, the school board must make certain that those issues most important to students are addressed by the administration and that a Shaker education benefits every student in it, not just those who are academically at the top of their class.

RITE IDEA

Cheers to the field hockey team's STATE CHAMPIONSHIP!!

Jeers to Louisiana gubernatorial candidate and former KKK grand wizard David Duke... He's changed. Sure.

Jeers to indecisive people.

Cheers to indecisive people.

Jeers to the Plain Dealer for stealing our "Cheers and Jeers" idea.

Cheers to Magic Johnson... an even bigger champion now.

Jeers to institutionalized racism.

Cheers to November snowfall... not so good for driving, but great for skiing.

CHEERS & JEERS

Cheers to the Dr. Rumbaugh "scruffy" look.
Jeers to no snow days at Shaker ever... This is really getting annoying.

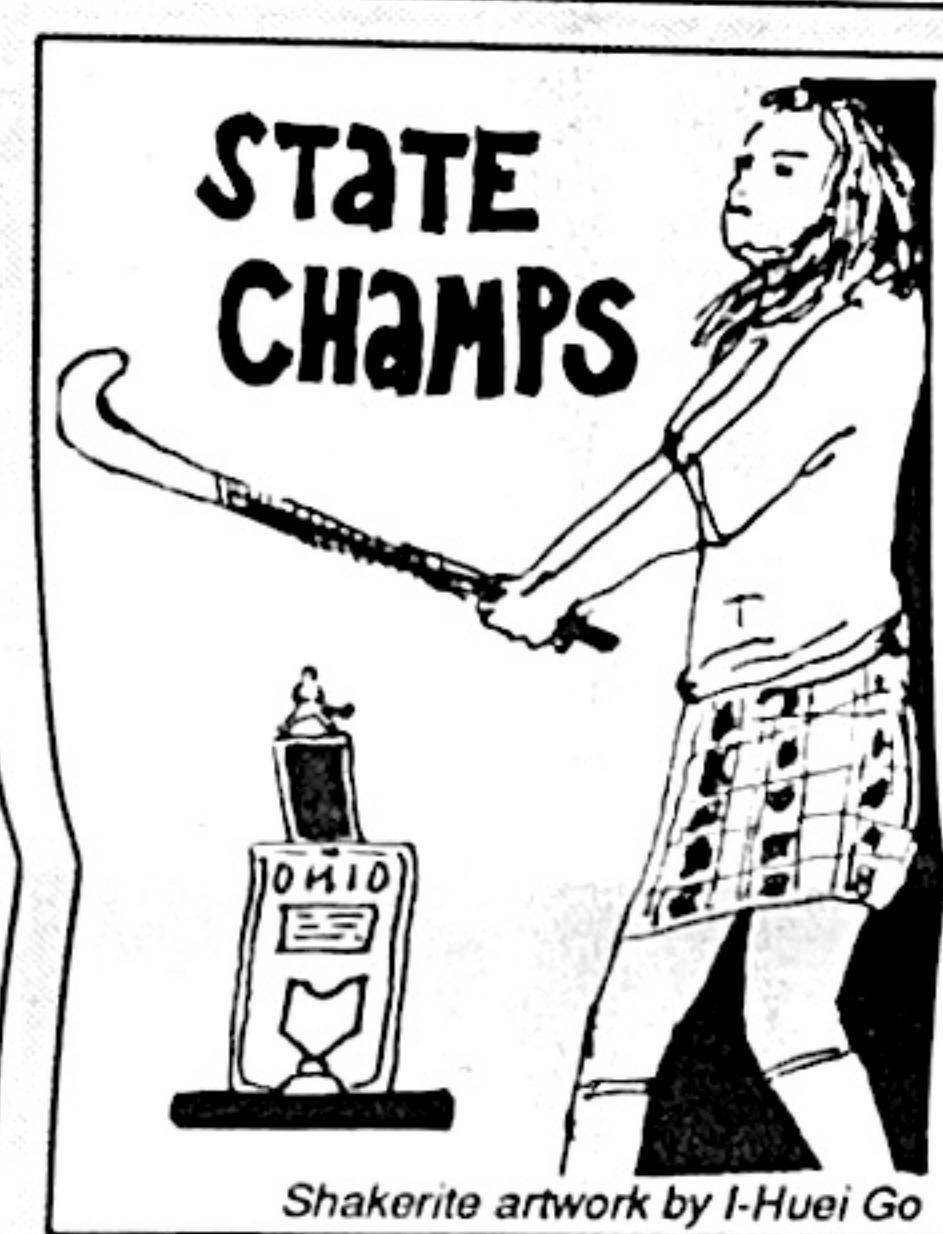
Cheers to high school students who had the guts to go trick-or-treating.

Cheers to the football team for winning on Homecoming even though the weather stunk.

Jeers to school pictures that appear bad to you but which everyone else says is a good likeness.



Shakerite artwork by I-Huei Go



Shakerite artwork by I-Huei Go

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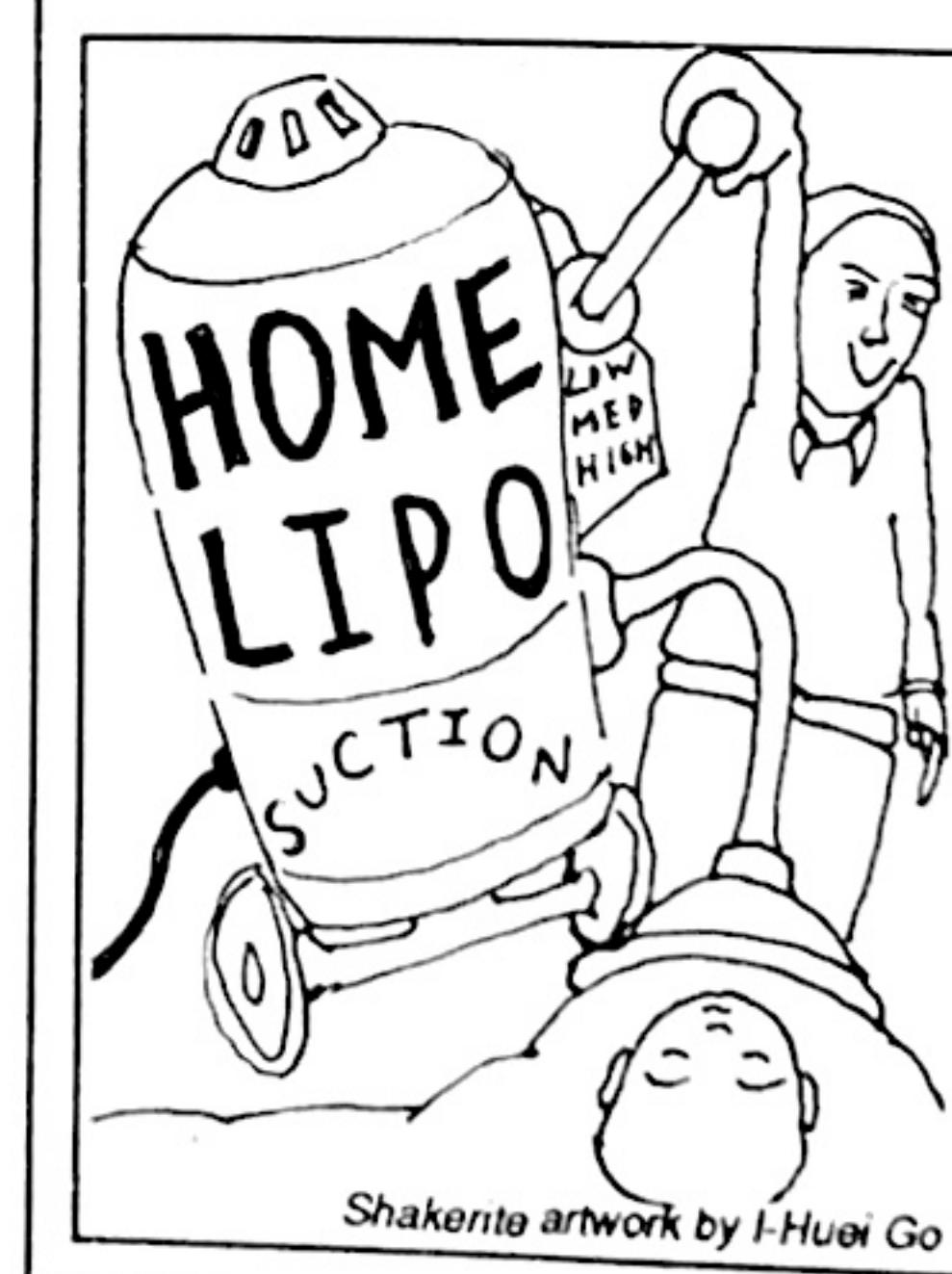
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THE TOP TEN

- 10. That clearasil almost matches your skin.
- 9. You know, you're a talented person.. in other areas.
- 8. I find you vaguely attractive in the same way I find being burned alive with Barbara Bush attractive.
- 7. That extra weight you've gained really adds to your gravity as a person.
- 6. Don't worry, not everyone hates you.
- 5. Your school picture looks just like you.
- 4. That ugly, out-of-style- look really suits you well.
- 3. Your skin condition is clearing up nicely.
- 2. You'd be a perfect candidate for my home-liposuction kit.
- 1. I like how you don't waste time trying to look good.



Compliments you
don't want to receive
and the #1 compliment
you don't want to receive

Game guarantees political success

BY JEREMY PARIS
Opinion and Columns Editor

PERSPECTIVE

Okay boys and girls, today we are going to learn how to play a new game. It's called *The Totally Guaranteed How-to-Get Elected (or Reelected) to Public Office Game*. This game is played by political candidates throughout the country, but now everybody can play in the comfort of his own home.

The first step: getting started. The most important priority in getting elected these days is to establish a "look". This "look" must appeal to a larger segment of the voting population than are repulsed by it. (You will find as you play that gaining popular appeal is important in every step.) You could go with the slick, polished look or the more country oriented "relaxed look." The latter is usually accompanied by a pseudo-Southern drawl and a preference for saying "y'all" to any and all possible voters.

Any one of a number of looks is acceptable, although the closer it is to your actual personality and/or political views, the less the likelihood of actually being elected.

The second, and possibly most important step, is creating your platform; that is, the political and social views upon which you stand (or fall off of). The key to this step is vagueness. The clearer your views are, the more easily they can be opposed by the opposition. Contradicting yourself on your views is a very popular way of eliminating opposition as nobody is sure what to oppose. A good example of this is to respond to a question such as, "Do you believe that a woman has the right to have an abortion or are you pro-life?" with a simple "yes."

The other popular method of eliminating opposition to

your views has been used by politicians since ancient days. In fact, few tortures are more excruciating than the method of having long, boring and confusing speeches. By the time you get around to actually expressing your views, the audience will either be asleep, dead or worse.

Using phrases such as "unilateral strategic weaponry", "defensive maneuvering and arsenal depletion" in place of "arms cuts" will usually confuse the potential opposition out of understanding and, thus, opposing, your views.

Once you have established your "look" and your "views", the next, and most exciting, part of the campaign can begin. Advertising.

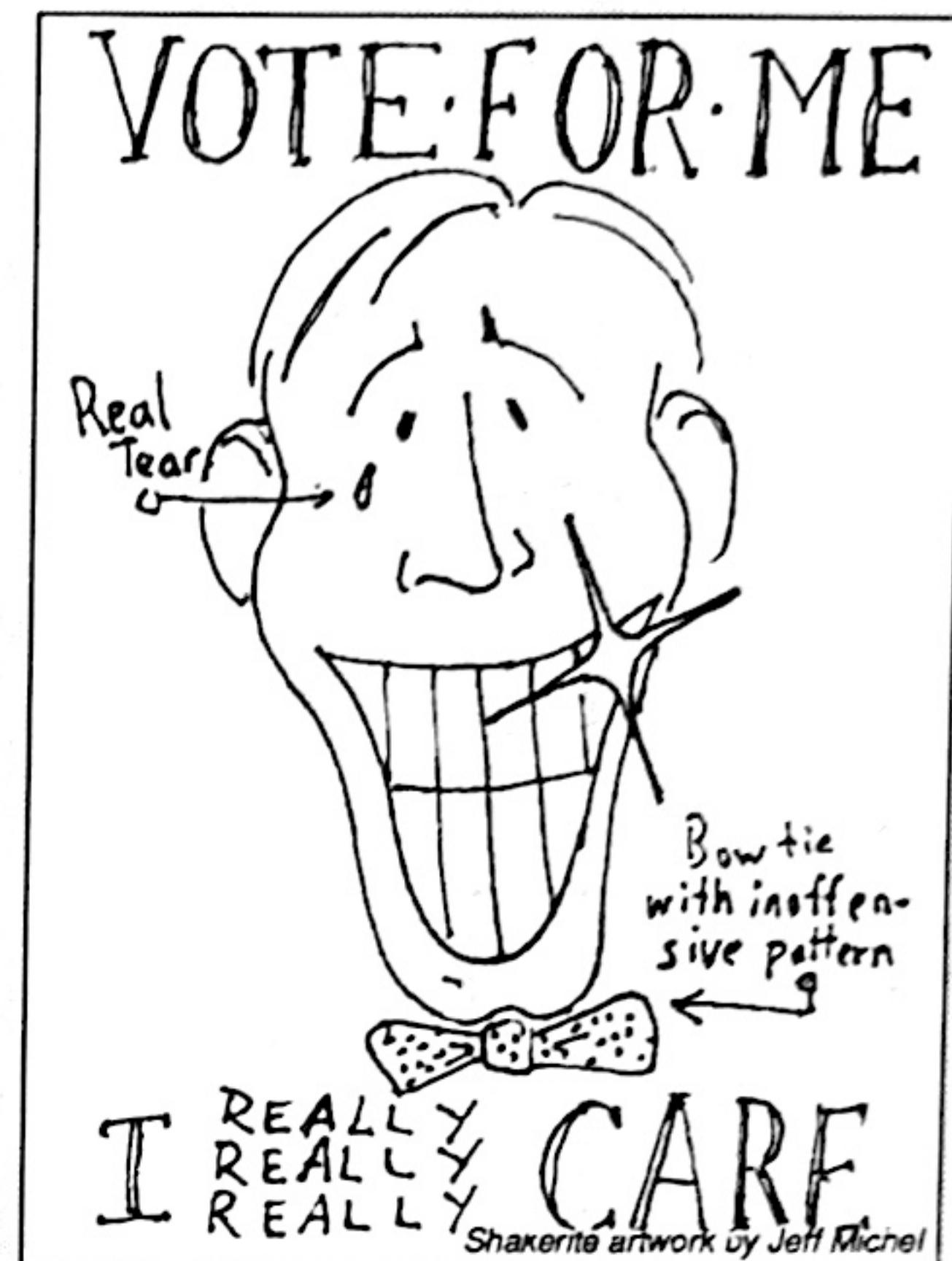
Since the creation of the 10-second "sound-bite", we have seen the advent of what I have termed "Fast-food politics". All views or other lies necessary for politicians to be elected must now be available in a series of short, slogan-filled television commercials which voters can consume within one evening of TV watching.

The other basic premise of commercials and the "sound-bite" is slandering the opposition. By cutting off key phrases or words from your opponent's quotes, you can totally twist his views. Then, by making it all into a short commercial, you can totally distort what your opposition stands for and ruin his life. Isn't modern politics great?

However, the most important step in getting elected to public office is passing the "Public Personality and Sex-life Standard." Apparently, the voting public has forgotten that the issues and capability of doing the job are what matter most; not a politician's sex life. While morals can impact on performance, even saints make mistakes. You can use this to your advantage (or, more to the point, your opponent's disadvantage).

The key to this is digging up dirt. For example, if your opponent ever bought an issue of *Playboy* or had an extramarital affair you should accuse him of being a pervert and unfit for public office. Then, use what you learned earlier and make your findings into a commercial. Now you are on a roll.

Once you are elected (if you get that far) it is important to do anything possible to get reelected and keep your rather



large-sized salary. I definitely do not recommend sticking to your views or keeping election promises to the people. Remember the cardinal rules of getting reelected; lie, slander your opponents and use public funds for your campaign. Do not worry, it is almost unheard of for an incumbent to lose.

I wish all of you future politicians out there good luck. A word of caution, however; any sense of morals or decency has no place in politics. If you have such a sense, I would advise you to direct your energies toward other areas.

otherwise we cannot rectify the problem.
In direct response to the article, I have it on good authority that a roach would not survive exposure to a 500 degree F pizza oven for 12 minutes, only to die at room temperature moments later. This information was verified by not one, but two, professional extermination services which we use for a preventive maintenance program, as required by the state health board. Furthermore, I question the integrity of using a third party as verified information in your article.

In closing, we wish to offer an open invitation to the student community of Shaker Heights to try our product at either of our two locations. I would like to thank the editorial staff for allowing, in fairness, this rebuttal to be published. **Bill Stevens, General Manager of Captain Tony's/Shaker Square**

Harlem shames Shaker

To the editor,

I recently visited a neighborhood public elementary school in Harlem. The halls were clean and quiet. The students were eager to learn. The computer teacher took me to visit several other classes, leaving two computer rooms with students working during lunch period with no adult supervision. When we returned, the students were still working quietly. I wish that Shaker students could have more pride in their school and more understanding of the joys of learning.

Mrs. Bryan, substitute teacher

Ad bashing off base, should promote product

To the editor:

Let's lighten up a little bit on private companies and institutions. In the last issue they were accused of numerous things from hypnotizing people to being cruel and uncaring. I'm not sure that I buy this business about how incredibly influential advertisements are in my life. Regardless, even if consumers are as gullible as it was implied, it is the consumer's own fault; not that of the companies'. After all, the one objective every rational business institution has is to maximize its profits. Therefore, if people are as naive as they have been portrayed to be, it is in the companies' interests to take advantage of this magnificent opportunity.

Are the companies of the U.S. really being ruthless by using beautiful models in their commercials? I see no reason for them to pay the inflated costs that they now must pay for commercials if they do not project a favorable image of their product. It is only sensible for a company to act in its own self-interest; anything else would be idiotic.

Ted Nims, junior

Shaker ignores realities of racial problems

To the editor,

My experience at Shaker has been memorable. After four years of observing life in this school I'd have to conclude that this place is a Fantasy Island and that, in fact, we are scared to face its realities.

Consider an example of what I'd call the Fantasy Island syndrome. Last year in the *Shakerite*, a headline read, "SGORR praised for ending racism." Then, not even two pages away in the editorial section appeared two letters from myself and Larry Braddell on serious racially related concerns. Don't get me wrong; I do not want to belittle SGORR (Student Group On Race Relations), but how can you get credit for something not accomplished? Can you assume that a whole page of math problems will have the same solution? Obviously not! You have to work out each individual problem and solve it. Furthermore, although they work in the elementary schools, why can't they work here? I'm not against what they do, but I do think they need to reevaluate their accomplishments and realize that the problem is not actually at Woodbury...it's here.

One of the most obvious problems here would be academic achievement by black students. Last year I approached some teachers and officials about creating a positive group for uniting the black population, formerly SOA (Sons of Africa), now AAC (African American Cultural Society). Most of those I contacted stated that they basically didn't like the name or some aspect of the idea. However, this school is in dire need of motivation for black males and females, simply because the majority of black students are hitting 2.0 GPA and below. In other words, the honor roll list would be a lot longer if there were a simple motivational group where students could come together to discuss their problems and look for help and guidance. But according to this system, there doesn't seem to be a problem.

Michael A Simmons, senior, co-founder of AAC

Hall coverage lacking

To the editor:

I was very upset after reading the cover story, "Hall of Fame inducts 11 alumni for 1991-92", in the Oct. 18 issue of the *Shakerite*. If the *Shakerite* is going to write an article about the alumni being inducted into the Hall of Fame then why was the first half of the article centered around Andy Borowitz? I was at the assembly and I found many of the other inductees just as interesting, if not more interesting, than Borowitz. Only two other inductees were quoted in the

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Captain Tony's refutes review's allegations

To the editor:

1) We at Captain Tony's, have spent much time and money creating a clean, positive environment in which to cater to the families and students of Shaker Heights and serve America's finest pizza.

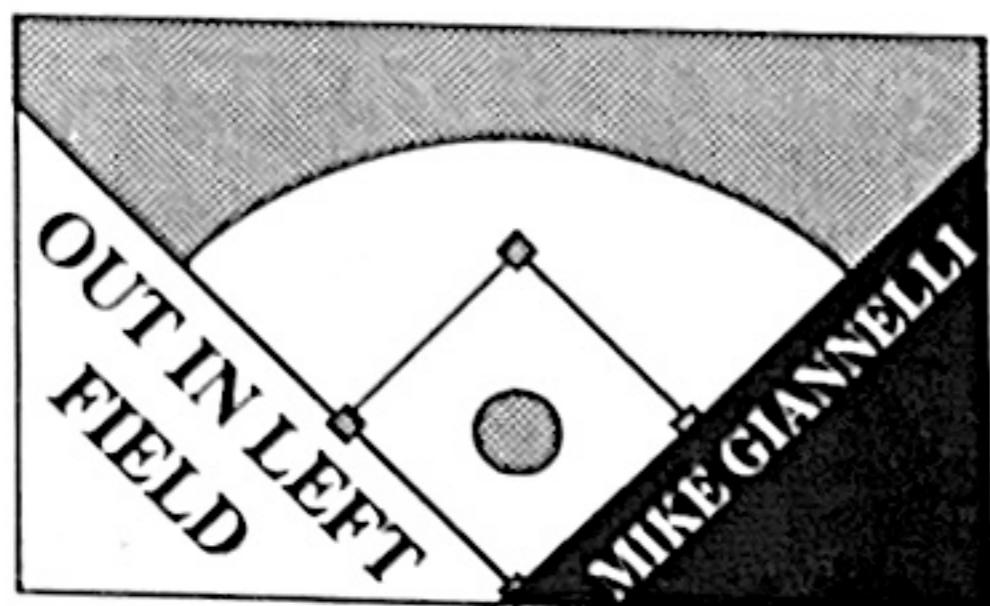
2) We employ Shaker students and residents of Shaker Heights and support Shaker athletic programs through program patronage and attendance by our staff and managers which includes an '84 Shaker alumnus. Also, the owner is a former teacher and coach within the system.

3) We donate, at cost and even below cost, our product to the school system lunch programs.

4) As current and future consumers, we ask that you remember a couple of important facts. If you have a problem with any consumer good you purchase, there is a course of action to follow, each unique to the particular situation. The situation described in the article regarding the cockroach, which we emphatically deny, would be handled by management, through the server. The same pizza would never have been presented a second time.

Regarding the "napkin" allegation which was included in the article, as accounted through a third party, unnamed no less, a similar course of action would follow. As consumers it is your duty to call problems to the management's attention,

Teachers, curriculum limit education



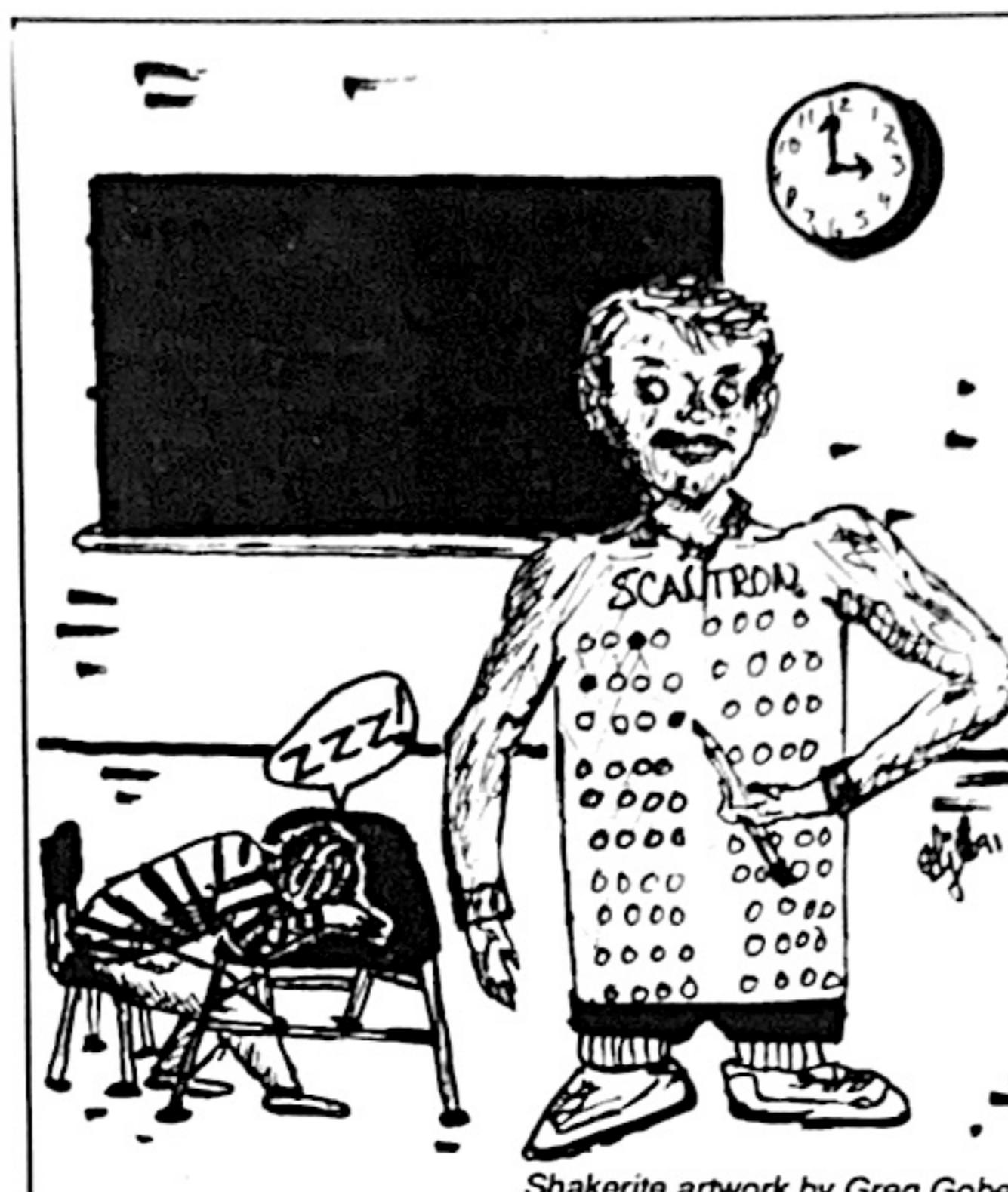
A school system should educate its students. It should venture to expand horizons and awaken minds. It should teach students to think. Unfortunately, these ideals have become greatly diluted, if not abandoned, at Shaker.

This has become most evident to me in my junior year. As I have advanced to the higher levels of schooling, a trend of being more burdened with work, yet less enlightened, has been established. As a result of this, I feel in some ways that my kindergarten year was my most educational.

After attending kindergarten for three days, I decided that I did not think kindergarten was for me, so I marched defiantly out the door. My mother, who was a teacher's aide, came after me and dragged me back inside. On that day I learned that I could not run away from my problems. I learned something new everyday in kindergarten and, after that one incident, enjoyed going to school.

Today, I memorized 32 mathematical values for sine and cosine, and 24 vocabulary words. I "learned" the difference between the four definitions of the word "tally."

The educational system has devoted itself too fully to the memorization of trivia. It is of little consequence to me that Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii "wrote many songs." Nor does it matter how tall she or any other historical figure was, or what they looked like. I am not looking for a date or a



Shakerite artwork by Greg Gobel

musician. I am searching for an education. While these types of trivia are of some interest, they have become overly emphasized and we lose track of the real issues.

It should be said that there are many teachers who actually do teach. It is these individuals who make school interesting. Many of these admirable teachers do most of their teaching themselves, using textbooks more as supplements, than as the student's sole source of information.

Often, such teachers are willing to discuss issues of current interest and importance in the school or the world which relate to their subject. They do not shy away from issues, ideas or philosophies, and recognize them as essential to our education. It is these teachers who really capture their students' attention and make them think, thus promoting learning. If students are interested in a class, they are much more likely to do the work required from it.

Unfortunately however, the opposite to this qualified style also exists in some classrooms. Textbooks are lumbered through. Thought is constrained and channelled. Memorization is over-emphasized.

One reason for such constrained learning is that the curriculum can restrict certain teachers no matter how gifted they are. They feel so pressed to fit in a certain amount of information that they end up feeling that there is never time to set down the textbook. The result is that they are never able to deviate from the set curriculum.

An integral part of the student's education is omitted with this as a constant, one-dimensional focus. While memorization does have merit, students can become overloaded by busywork and repetition. A student must be taught how to apply memorized information and integrate different concepts.

I do not know why some teachers refrain from teaching students to do such thinking. It has been suggested to me that this is from an overly conscious effort for their students to succeed on SAT, achievement or AP tests. Teachers are thus teaching to these tests, shunning other aspects of education. If this is the case, then may I as a student urge for a change. While I would like to do well on these tests, it is not worth sacrificing my education for them.

By the way, what is the climate, location, and population of the Molucca Islands? Did their queen sing songs? And should I memorize this for the next test?

Mistakes plague senior pictures



Shakerite artwork by Ledel Johnson

Magic tragedy provides lessons and reality, hits close to home



Last week Magic Johnson, the great Los Angeles Lakers basketball star and humanitarian, announced to the world that he is retiring from professional basketball because he has tested positive for the HIV virus, which is the virus that leads to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). The world is now confronted with the sad reality about AIDS. It is not just a disease of homosexuals or IV drug users or any specific group of people. It can attack even the strongest among us.

Many people hold a special place in their hearts for their sports heroes, through whom they vicariously live out their dreams on the playing field. Magic Johnson has always been such an athlete, with his great abilities and, more importantly, his winning personality and morals.

Thus, the recent announcement brings with it a tone of very personal sadness for many people. However, such a tragedy can be used for a greater good. To many people, AIDS is a very distant disease which does not seem like a real problem. The affliction of Magic Johnson may do much to make people aware of the dangers of AIDS and of unprotected sex, an issue of particular relevance to high school students.

I have already experienced personal loss at the hands of AIDS. A teacher that I had in elementary school for two years, Richard Ware, died of AIDS a few years ago. I visited him after he was diagnosed as having the virus and I was very surprised at how healthy he looked. Yet, less than a year later he had died because his immune system had been destroyed by the virus.

Magic still looks, and is, healthy. However, unless a cure is found soon, Magic Johnson, like the hundreds of thousands of other Americans affected by the HIV virus, will die. One expert who was being interviewed the night after Magic's announcement said that if anyone can beat AIDS, it would be Magic.

That struck me as a very ignorant comment. Magic is a champion in every sense of the word, but the sad truth is that even his seemingly indomitable will will not save him from the disease. After getting the HIV virus, a person has at most 10 years before they get full blown AIDS. Did the thousands of people who have already died of AIDS not also have a strong will to live?

However, in the time he has left to live, Magic can do more good for furthering AIDS research and awareness than anyone who has come before him. Throughout his career, Magic has proved to be a great humanitarian by giving his time and money to many causes. Now he has the ability to reach even higher levels of greatness by using his own suffering and tragedy to educate others so that they will not make the same mistakes that led to Magic getting the HIV virus.

Magic Johnson has dealt with this entire tragedy with the same dignity and greatness that he carried with him on the basketball court. The world should learn from his example.

The class of '92 is extraordinarily talented. It is probable that at least one member of this class will become famous some day. Can't you see it now - on Donahue or with Barbara Walters, John or Jane Doe, member of Shaker's class of '92, explaining how he or she became president, won 10 Oscars, and/or slept with Geraldo? And then comes the segment of the program when the interviewer focuses on the individual's early years, and the TV flashes to the senior picture in the '92 *Gristmill*, the picture that determines how an individual is remembered in the eyes of his classmates and a picture which will now be frozen in the minds of the American public for years to come. But wait, what's this? The contorted smile which can hardly be made out from the blurred photograph bears no resemblance to the beautiful smiling face now before the camera. What happened?

"You were, an ugly child, were you not?" asks the interviewer.

"No, I simply had no choice in selecting a picture," answers the embarrassed guest.

"That is a travesty," says the interviewer compassionately as the guest begins to weep.

Here, here, I couldn't agree more. The class of '92 has been done a great injustice. We have been denied the fundamental right of choice - we have not been allowed to select our own senior picture. Prestige Portraits, the Lifetouch National Studios franchise which took the pictures for the yearbook, and with whom the blame for poor photographic quality must lie, selected the picture which they thought was best and sent this shot directly to the *Gristmill*.

Furthermore, the information which Prestige Portraits sends along with the proofs of one's pictures gives no indication of which photo has been chosen. It misleads students into thinking that they can select their own yearbook picture by placing a sticker on the proof which they want and sending this selection to the company. This is not the case, however, because the yearbook photos have been selected by Prestige, sent to the *Gristmill*, and then on to the publisher.

The blame for such a system cannot be placed upon Prestige Portraits or Lifetouch Studios alone. Some must lie with the *Gristmill* staff, who should have foreseen potential problems. Herff Jones, the yearbook company used by the *Gristmill*, must take some of the blame as well. It set production schedules too tight to follow and failed to properly inform the *Gristmill* staff of the procedures they should follow. Better coordination and organization on the part of all parties involved might have prevented this fiasco. Everyone must be aware of the problems with the present system so that next year things might be different.

'A different level of acting': After school class teaches spontaneity, freedom

BY CARRIE LYONS

Staff Reporter

It involves a complete interplay of words, actions and emotions. It is the ability to instantly create characters, stories and scenes. It is improvisation, and it is now a new theatre class, with 22 students in it, taught by Kelly Myers.

"The soul goal of the class is to help the students develop a different level of acting and to experience various forms of theater," said Myers.

This goal is achieved through a variety of activities, such as freezes, tag, emotions, torture the actor and film study. Each of these incorporate elements of improvisational acting. In tag, for example, after a scene has developed, a new scene is started by interpreting a word or phrase in a different way.

"These activities are for the audience, as they are designed to bring them in on the fun," said Myers. "Part of the joy of improvisational acting is that the audience knows that the performing actors have no idea of what they are going to say or do next."

According to Myers, the class is challenging because the student is forced to become both an actor and a playwright. But she feels that the class is also rewarding.

"The students learn techniques to use in every other area of performance theatre,"

said Myers. "For example, the spontaneous acting process is what makes certain plays work and not work. It teaches them to work independently of a director."

Some students feel that the class helps them in other areas of life as well.

"In each situation, both people have to work together to create a successful scene," said sophomore Mike Fleming. "This class basically teaches us the value of teamwork."

There are other aspects of life that the class can be helpful in. Some others appreciate the ability to create new characters.

"I enjoy heightening each character to the fullest extent," said Sophomore Larry Knight. "My goal is to be able to relate to people with different characters. In real life, things I learn in this class help me relate to different people better."

While the class has just begun, Myers hopes that the group can go out and perform in the community and in other classes in the school. An improv show is planned for the end of the semester.

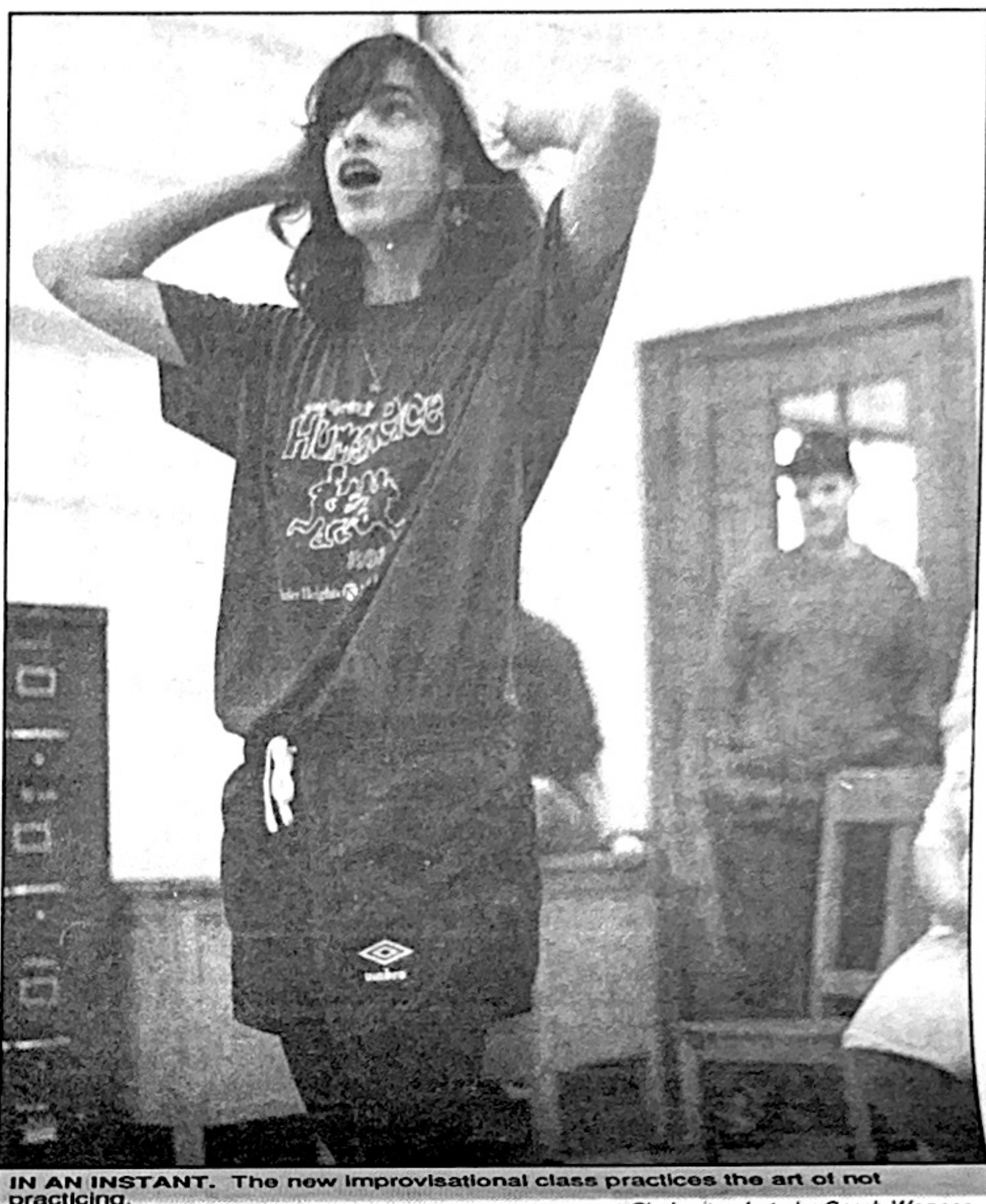
Even though the goal of the class is to develop the students' skills to a presentable level, both Myers and students also believe that the class should be fun and exciting as well.

"Improv forces you to think on your feet, explore your own crazy thoughts, make sense out of nonsense and join a world where sanity is obsolete," said senior Samantha Staley.

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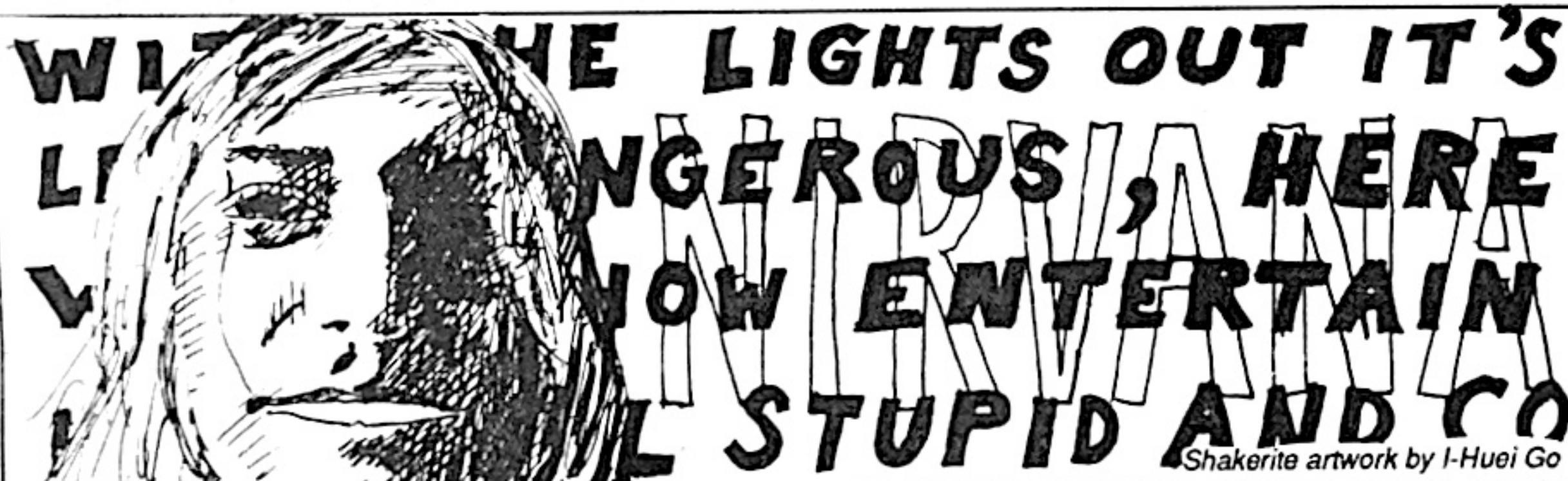
The sole goal of the class is to help the students develop a different level of acting and to experience various forms of theatre."

—Kelly Myers



IN AN INSTANT. The new improvisational class practices the art of not practicing.

Shakerite photo by Sarah Wagner



Nirvana tops college charts...

Can you smell the teen spirit?

BY DAN RATNER

Entertainment and Spotlight Editor

Last weekend, I was watching MTV, when (what do you know) a video came on. I had never heard it before. Come to think of it, I had never heard of the group either. The song, "Smells Like Teen Spirit" was loud and thrashing. It caught my attention, to say the least. By the end of the song, I was determined to find more about this new group, Nirvana.

After some thorough research, I found that the group's new album is called *Never Mind*. I heard the same song on the radio, on the way home from the Browns' game, and I found myself entranced by it once again.

The next day, I was talking to a good friend of mine, and he asked me if I had heard Nirvana. We both began to shout out a variety of positive things about them. But they all amounted to the same thing—let's go buy it. And after school, we did.

Before seeing the cover, I was expecting something strange, and it was. Unless you think a naked baby boy, underwater, swimming towards a dollar bill on a fish hook, is normal for a cover, I think you'd agree.

We were eager to hear if the other songs were as good as the one we had heard. So we expected nothing less than what it was. It was extremely...unique.

Some of the song titles are very inviting to a listener. Wouldn't you love to hear what the song, "Territorial

Pissings," is like? Well, I wanted to hear it. Anyway, most of the titles are more simplistic than this. Take for example, "Lithium," or "Drain You." These titles let you know exactly what the song is about. Well, maybe not.

If you listen, though, you might be able to find out what the songs are about. I wasn't able to, though. That probably had something to do with the fact that I couldn't understand what the singer said. At least he had a good voice, and the music was good. Someone needs to write a letter to tell him to open his mouth when he sings. After all, it is more effective to do so.

Eventually, I did decipher a lot of the words. It didn't make any difference. The fact was, I loved the music, and it had good rhythm. He could have been singing songs from *Sesame Street*. But it sure did sound good, and that's all that matters.

In deciding that the album was really good, I set out to tell people about them. But Nirvana didn't really need me for publicity. I was looking through *Rolling Stone*, and I found a very interesting fact. Nirvana was already, the number one college album. Apparently, a lot of people found the album without my advice. If you haven't, though, I think you should.

Rating (out of five):



Fat, Wu team up in violent action film

BY CARTER BAYS

Staff Reporter

What was the action movie extravaganza of the year? The very best in mass destruction, unnecessary violence, blasting guns and spilling blood? Some might say *Terminator 2*. Others might say *Die Hard 2*. But in my opinion, the action movie of the year wasn't either of these. It's not even a sequel. It's not even an American film. It's John Wu's *The Killer*, straight out of Hong Kong.

The Killer is the story of Jeff Weng (Chow Yun Fat), a renegade hitman who only takes jobs which involve killing people whom he thinks don't deserve to live. In what he thinks is the last job of his career, he accidentally blinds a nightclub singer, Jenny, with powder burns from his gun. He feels regretful, so he tracks her down. He discovers that in order to restore her sight, she needs a few million dollars.

He takes one last job to raise money for her, but is doublecrossed. Eventually, the entire Hong Kong mafia is after him.

But, the plot serves as sort of a backdrop to the real highlight of the movie—action, action, action, at a nonstop pace.

The Killer's genius lies in Wu's ability to keep the action new, interesting and alive. The fights often stray from the formula, adding intense psychology to the seemingly pointless violence. In fact, the truly brilliant scenes are the ones that involve very little violence, if any. For example, Jeff's rescue of Jenny at the airport. Of course, scenes in which two men are besieged by 200 heavily armed soldiers are also pretty impressive.

The violence in *The Killer* is childish. But that's not an insult. The fight scenes do, in fact, seem like they were choreographed by third graders who previously staged wars with their G.I.Joes: characters have unlimited endurance, brushing off gunshot wounds like mosquito bites. If you can't stomach violence or subtleties (did I mention it's in Cantonese?), don't see this movie. But if these two factors are fine with you, go see it.

Rating (out of five):



Echoing the Cleavers... Family dinners strengthen unity, create memorable situations

BY LAURIE GREEN
Staff Reporter

The Cleaver family dinner was an integral part of the daily routine and was considered a cherished tradition. Mom made homemade meatloaf and mashed potatoes and everyone shared their important news of the day.

In comparison, today's family dinner often consists of fast food burgers and fries in front of the television. While June Cleaver had time to prepare well-balanced meals, many of today's mothers are out in the work force. For the sake of time, most family members grab a quick sandwich or order fast food. The most important family decisions of today translate into: "What'll it be tonight? Pizza, Chinese or Subway?"

Many students feel that traditional family dinners have become a thing of the past and that even past generations were not always model families.

"I feel that the example of family behavior in the Brady Bunch Era was not true of all American families as it is not true of them today," said senior Dan Messinger.

According to freshman Kevin Johnson, families were more close knit in past generations than they are today.

"Members of families are growing more independent

today," said Johnson.

With hectic schedules, most families just don't have the time to eat together.

"Everyone in my family has a different schedule. It is hard to get every member together at the same time," junior Quinna Owens said.

Junior Donnell Davis agrees that with every family member on a different routine it is difficult to eat together as a family. Many students participate in sports or other clubs and do not arrive home in time for dinner.

"By the time I get home from practice, everyone has already eaten and my dinner is in the oven," Davis said.

In some cases, people find that family dinners turn into arguments because everyone takes out their frustrations and stress at the kitchen table.

"My family eats together, but we fight at every meal. It is easier to avoid conflict by eating separately or in front of the television," said freshman Jamar Lewis.

According to senior Ray Graves, the family dinner has not become extinct. However, he attributes its decline to the fact that families are more independent.

"Today, the emphasis is not on eating together as a family, but rather eating independently when it is convenient," Graves said.

Owens agrees that it is more convenient to eat by

yourself when you have the time, than to wait for the entire family to sit down.

"People are hungry at different times and most people eat when they feel like it," Owens said.

Despite conflicting schedules, many families make the time to eat together. The family places importance on mealtimes because it is the only way to spend time together as a family.

"In my family it is a rule that we eat together every night," freshman D'hana Perry said.

Many families even have a special pattern associated with their family dinners. Some families order out every Sunday, while others have other traditions.

"Everyone sits in a specific chair and my mom asks us about our day," senior Maureen Gallagher said.

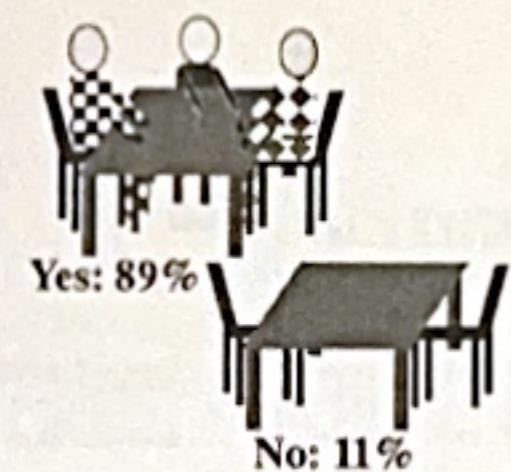
Though some traditions seem eternal, the tradition of mothers doing all the cooking has begun to change. It is now more common to see dad with an apron.

"My dad cooks for our family every night because he gets off of work an hour earlier than my mom," senior Tarice Sims said.

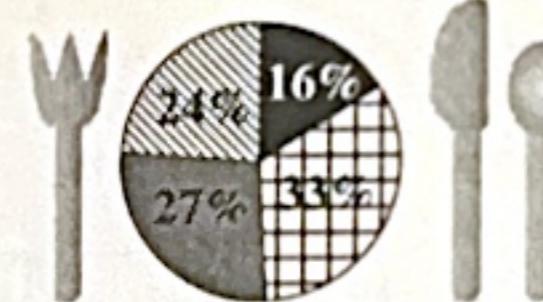
While the days of June Cleaver may have faded, the families of the 1990's have instituted new and innovative ways to keep a bit of the past alive. (After all look at how well Beaver turned out.)

It's suppertime!

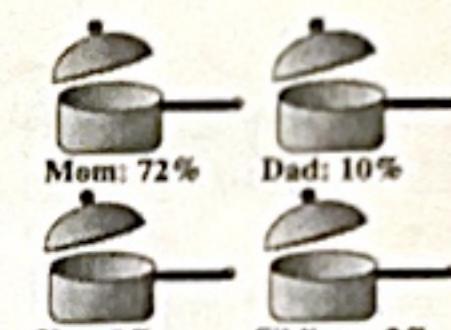
Results show families are still eating together



Does your family eat meals together?



How often do you eat together?



Who cooks the majority of these dinners?

Shakerite graphics by Marshall Levin

CHOCOLATE CAKE

1 (3.5 oz.) box chocolate pudding (not instant)
2 cups milk
1 box plain chocolate cake mix
1 (6 oz.) package chocolate chips, semi-sweet

Prepare chocolate pudding as directed on package and let cool. Add cake mix and stir. Transfer mixture to greased 9 in. by 13 in. pan. Sprinkle with chocolate chips and bake in preheated 350 degree oven for 25-30 minutes.

—Ruth Berger

ROCKY ROAD FUDGE

2 (6 oz.) packages of semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 (14 oz.) can of Eagle brand sweetened condensed milk (not evaporated)
2 cups dry roasted peanuts or walnuts
1 (10 1/2 oz.) package of miniature marshmallows
2 tablespoons margarine

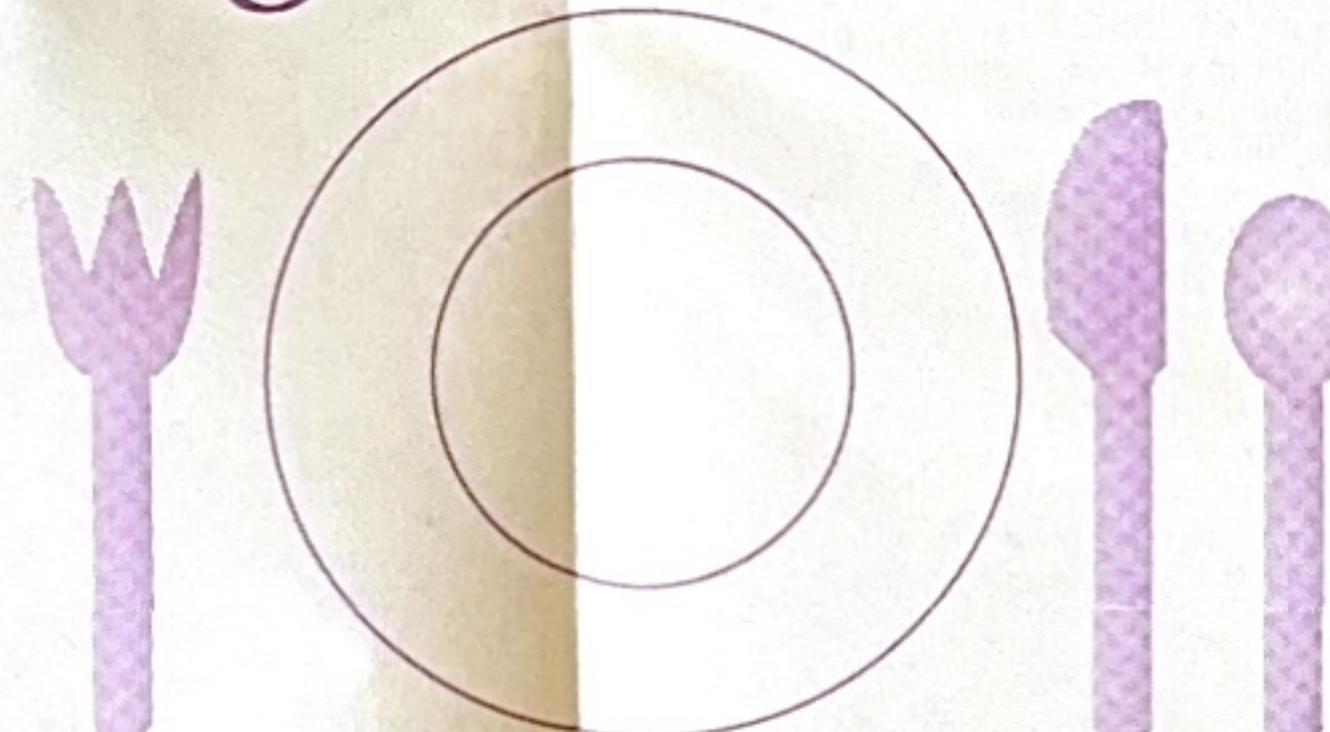
In saucepan, melt chips with condensed milk and margarine. In large bowl, combine peanuts (walnuts) and marshmallows. Pour chocolate mixture into peanut mixture, mix well. Spread into wax paper lined 9 in. by 13 in. pan. Chill 2 hours. Makes 40 servings.
—Craig Maxwell

ZUCCHINI SQUARES

3 cups grated zucchini
parsley
1 clove garlic
1 cup Bisquick
1/2 cup oil
1/2 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
4 eggs, slightly beaten

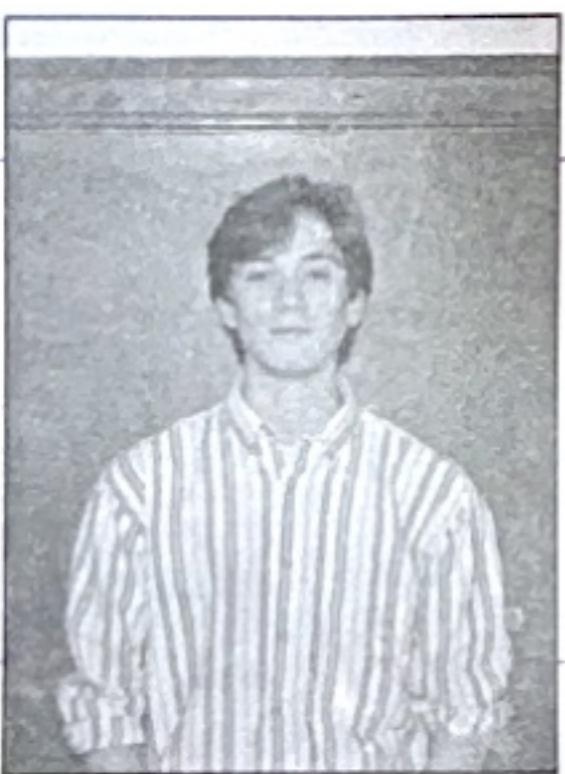
Mix all ingredients together and put into a 9 in. by 13 in. greased pan. Sprinkle paprika all over top. Put 2 tablespoons oil on top. Bake in 350 degree oven for 35 minutes.
—Kevin Cole

Guess who's coming to dinner!



Shakerite graphics by Debra Mayers

What is your ideal or
most memorable
Thanksgiving dinner?



Dan Babbitt, senior

"My most memorable Thanksgiving was when my family went through a snowstorm to get to my aunt's house. It took us 10 hours but it was supposed to be a 4 hour trip."



Renee Hairston, junior

"My ideal Thanksgiving would be if all of my friends and family could get together in one big place."



Hubert McIntyre, teacher

"My ideal Thanksgiving would be to have a dinner with three T.V. sets, each on a different channel. I'd be able to watch everything from football games to the parades."

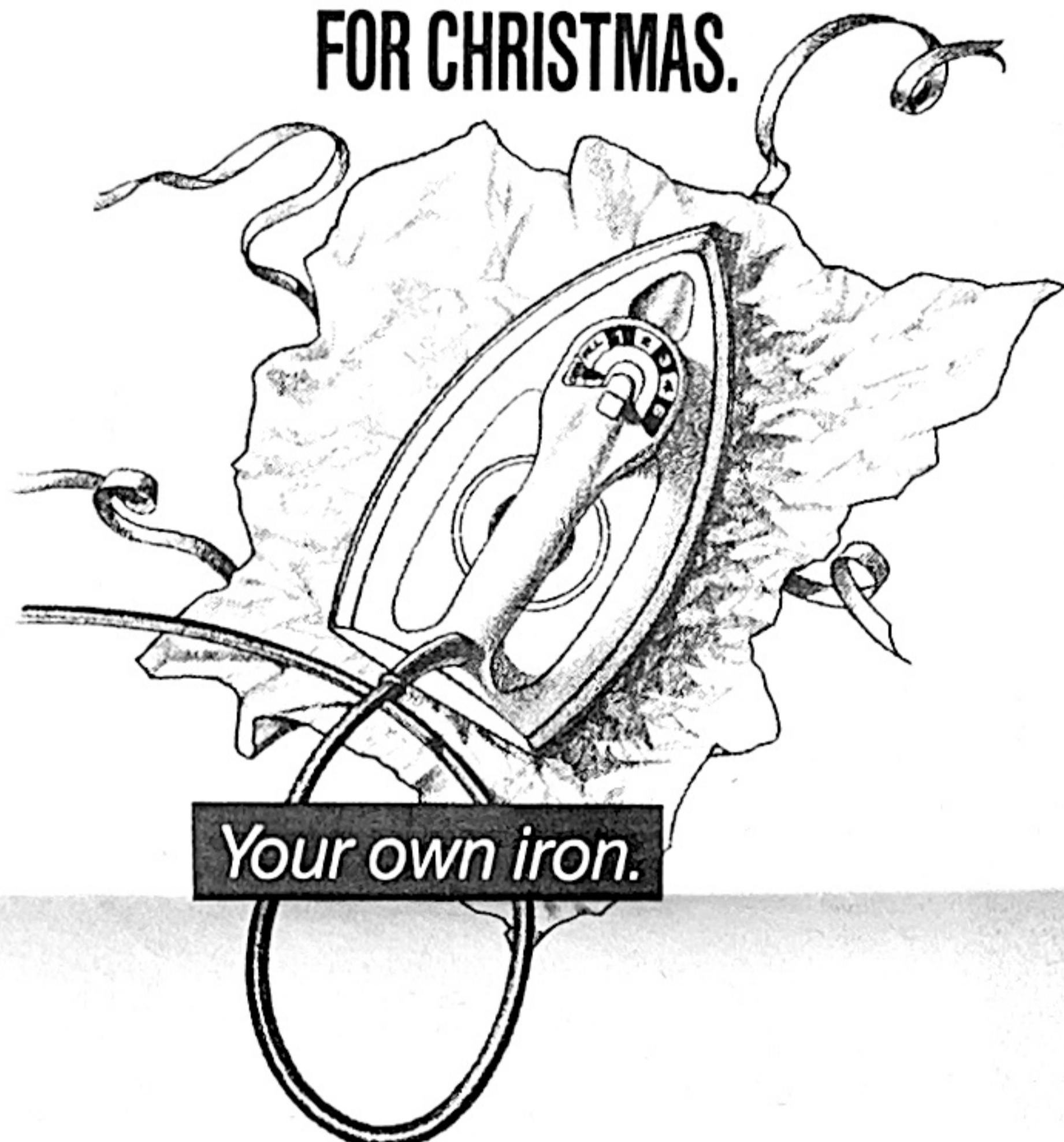


Adam Henry, sophomore

"I remember the day after Thanksgiving, I got sick from the turkey my aunt made."

Photos by Josh Harris

WHAT YOUR PARENTS
WANT TO GET YOU
FOR CHRISTMAS.



Your own iron.

WHAT YOU WANT
YOUR PARENTS TO GET
YOU FOR CHRISTMAS.



Your own phone package.

This year, why not go for it? Tell your parents how much you'd like a phone package from Ohio Bell. An Ohio Bell phone package gives you your own phone line, plus two awesome custom calling features: three-way calling and call waiting. So tell your folks to forget the flannel pajamas, new study lamp and socks. Remind them how important the phone is to your social life. Tell them it will help you check on homework assignments (occasionally). Explain how it will free up their own phone line, because you won't need it anymore (this one always gets to them). And tell them it costs less than they think. Then ask them to call Ohio Bell at 1-800-282-3300, department 188, to order. Oh, and while you're at it, you could mention now they can save \$10 on a slick new phone that would look great in your room (or theirs). So go ahead, ask. A phone package from Ohio Bell beats the heck out of fuzzy slippers any day.

1-800-282-3300

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Cheating: Means of survival for some

BY LESLY BLANTON

Staff Reporter

All eyes but two are fixed on the exam. Your neighbor's piercing glance finds its way over your shoulder onto your test paper and focuses on the answer he does not know. It is obvious that he is cheating, but what has brought him to this point?

In a recent Shakerite survey, 85 percent of 200 students surveyed said they have cheated on a test or quiz at some point.

What is considered cheating by some people is not necessarily considered cheating by others.

Senior Devon Settles said using a card of formulas for one of his geometry tests was not truly cheating because he had to substitute the variables with the appropriate numbers.

"I have 'cheated' on a test and got caught, but it wasn't cheating, cheating. I only had a card with different formulas," Settles said.

A question of what is considered cheating arises when students learn of the questions on a test from students who have taken the test in an earlier class period.

"Finding out questions before the test is not cheating because it is public access from that point," junior Chris Neill said.

Spanish teacher Paula Wright disagrees

with this reasoning and considers finding out what was on the test cheating.

The reasons for cheating vary depending on the individual. Some students cheat because they are unprepared for the test and feel that cheating is the only way to maintain the grades they have worked for.

Methods of cheating differ. According to Martin, some students will write answers on their bodies, while others will look on their classmates' papers.

Senior Joann Chang said in the past she has created a distraction with her hair or glasses and then scooted near someone she felt knew the answers.

Some students said their teachers do not pay enough attention when their students are taking a test, tempting the class to cheat.

"Teachers just don't watch [their classes.] I'll look up and see them doing their own work at their desks," Neill said.

When teachers leave the room during a test, many students feel that this gives them permission to cheat. Sixty-one percent of students surveyed said they had cheated on a test when a teacher left the room.

"[Leaving during a test] is basically saying, 'cheat all you can while I'm gone,'" Settles said.

Some students do not cheat because they feel it is wrong.

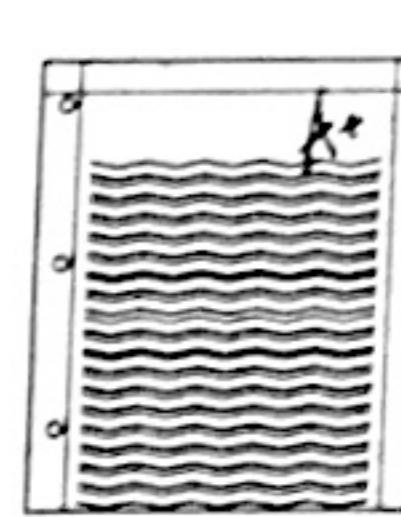
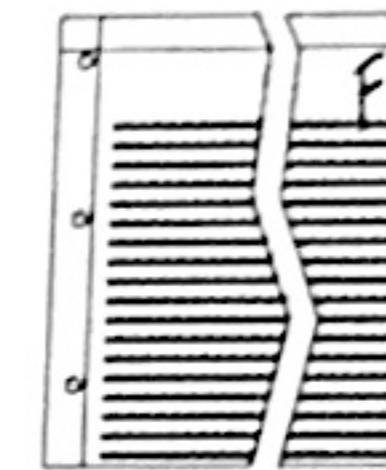
"I think the principle is wrong. [I

Students report widespread cheating

Based on a Shakerite survey of 200 people



Have you ever cheated on a test or quiz?



Have you ever been caught cheating on a test or quiz?

Shakerite graphics by Marshall Levin and Kathryn Schulz

wouldn't cheat] even if I knew I wouldn't get caught," junior Abbe Carroll said.

Whether or not it is right to cheat, the decision is based on the student's conscience.

"Those who do cheat have the burden of their guilt. You become your own policeman," Neill said.

There are teachers who practice preventive methods to cut down on cheating.

Some teachers, such as math teacher Leanne Byrd and Wright make two different copies of their tests.

Wright also says to a student she suspects of cheating, "If you strain any further to see that paper, you'll get hernia."

Punishment for cheating is left up to the teacher and may often include a policy of zero credit for the respective test.

Future Teachers Club brings members closer to career goals

BY JILL PELAVIN

Co-Centerpiece Editor

At least two-thirds of our life has been spent behind a school desk, looking up at a teacher for guidance, but with the help of The Future Teachers Club, potential teachers are learning what it's like to sit on the other side of the desk.

The Future Teachers Club, which has experienced a revival in the state of Ohio after it became less popular during a period of overcrowding in the teaching field, was introduced to the high school this year by Administrative Assistant for Personnel, Bill Trost.

"The goal of the club is to let students know that teaching is a viable career choice," Trost said.

Social studies teacher and independent study coordinator Jerry Graham is the club's adviser. Graham recruited members by PA announcements and signs hung around the school.

"I took this position because I am truly fascinated about teaching. It is an interesting and tricky process," Graham said. "I was pleased with the 20 members who came to the first meeting because I feared no one would show up."

After sophomore Erin Stevens heard about the club and saw the signs posted around the school, he attended the first

meeting to see if he were interested.

"I want to be a teacher after college, and I think it's important to learn about a career before you pursue it," Stevens said.

According to Graham, the club has met three times. One meeting was an all day seminar at John Carroll in which seven members attended.

"Teachers from different schools in the Cleveland area spoke to us and other interested high school students about

"The goal of the club is to let students know that teaching is a viable career choice."

— Bill Trost

what teaching is like and the obstacles involved," senior Brian Keating said.

Stevens, who also attended the seminar, hopes to attend more events through the club so she can learn more about teaching before she decides to pursue it as a career.

"I eventually want to teach elementary school for the

hearing impaired because I like little kids," Stevens said. "This past summer, I worked with the hearing impaired at Shady Trails Camp in Michigan, and I loved it."

Graham said that the members can choose the extent and activities to which they participate within the club.

"Students may do anything from attending conferences and seminars about teaching to actually working at the elementary, middle or high school level," Graham said.

Senior Ilanit Gerlich eventually wants to become a college professor and said that the club is a great opportunity for a teaching internship with elementary or middle school students in preparation for a future career.

Freshman David Luce said he is the only club member that wants to teach high school in the future.

"I think part of the reason other students do not want to teach [at this level] is because they are still in high school and do not like how students treat their teachers," Luce said. Teaching high school is also more demanding because you need to have more of a grasp on the subject you teach than at the elementary school level."

Most members agree they have already learned some of the positive and negative aspects involved in teaching.

"Being a teacher is going to take a lot of hard work and understanding," Keating said.

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Interact tutors learn satisfaction of teaching

BY REBECCA DAVIS

Staff Reporter

Every Thursday evening, 20 members of the Interact Club arrive at the Church of the Transfiguration to tutor. Throughout the year, they help inner-city children with their school work and in turn experience the satisfaction of hard work, dedication and its resulting achievements.

"[The tutees] generally are kids whose parents want them to get extra help," said science teacher Robert Sylak, Interact's adviser. "So they're not slow kids, or abused kids; they're just poor kids. They just want to get ahead."

Each high school student works throughout the year with an elementary age student at the church. Sophomore Sarah Hill, in her second year of the program, said that her experiences have shown her several things.

"They were definitely a little different than we were," Hill said. "They talked to us about how many fights they had gotten into that day. But they were kids. They talked about a lot of the same things we did when we were that age."

Willingness to commit to the weekly sessions is essential because the tutees rely heavily upon their tutors, according to Junior Meredith Balcerzak, who coordinates Shaker's involvement in the program.

"We're basically someone who they can count on being there every week when they can't count on a lot of other things in their

life," she said.

However, Balcerzak said she looks forward to keeping her commitment to the program.

"The look on the kids faces when you come every week, knowing that they have been waiting all day, is the most gratifying experience I can tell you," Balcerzak said.

Hill expressed similar feelings.

"Seeing the kids week after week, you become friends with them and they talk to you about what is going on in their life," Hill said. "And they kind of look up to you."

Balcerzak said a further motivation for her was the opportunity to become a mentor.

"[I like] the idea of being able to influence in a positive way children who don't live in the same environment as I do," she said.

Senior Ted Fitch said that he was interested in taking his involvement with his student beyond the weekly tutoring sessions.

"The boy I'm working with now, Hubert, wants to go to one of my lacrosse games," Fitch said. He added that he hopes he will be able to take his student away from a more depressing situation to help him have fun.

Balcerzak said that this year the group plans to take the tutees on several field trips, such as to the zoo or to Sea World. Moreover, she emphasized that everyone, including the children, will be involved in fund raising for the trips.

"We want the kids involved in fund raising to show them you have to work for what you want," she said. "If you work, you can achieve what you want to do."



ONE OF THE GANG. Junior Jessica Powell eats with children involved in the Interact Club's tutoring program. Members help academically but also serve as role models to their tutees.

Shakerite photo courtesy of Meredith Balcerzak

Despite their positive experiences from last year, the program needs to be more structured around actual tutoring, according to Hill and sophomore Mwende Munyasya.

"A lot of times we'd go down there and we really wouldn't tutor and it would just be for them to socialize, and that was kind of disappointing," Munyasya said.

"It often turned into a lot of babysitting instead of tutoring," Hill added. "Sometimes

they just gave us worksheets to do with the kids, and that wasn't real productive."

Regardless of the program's past problems, Sylak said he feels that the participants love the program.

"They get pretty close to [the tutees] because they work with them for a whole year," Sylak said. "It's pretty satisfying to get in that kind of relationship because you can watch the kids grow and improve."

WHAT DO YA KNOW?

Current Events Quiz

1. Terry Anderson, of Lorain County, has been held in Beirut since
(a) 1954 (b) 1973 (c) 1985 (d) 1991
2. Arab-Israeli peace talks were held in
(a) Madrid, Spain (b) London, England (c) New York, U.S.A.
(d) Paris, France
3. All of the following spoke at the Arab-Israeli peace talks EXCEPT
(a) George Bush (b) Saddam Hussein (c) Mikhail Gorbachev
(d) Felipe Gonzales
4. The winners of the 1991 World Series are the
(a) Atlanta Braves (b) Toronto Blue Jays (c) Pittsburgh Pirates
(d) Minnesota Twins
5. The Croatians are seeking their independence from
(a) the Soviet Union (b) Yugoslavia (c) Czechoslovakia
(d) Hungary
6. Louisiana gubernatorial candidate ____?____ was a one time Ku Klux Klan leader.
(a) David Duke (b) Buddy Roemer (c) Edwin Edwards
(d) Dale Reusch
7. One of the men accused of murdering Philip and Dorothy Porter of Shaker Heights is
(a) Sam Miller (b) David Schneider (c) Donald Soka
(d) John Samson
8. The man recently confirmed as Supreme Court Justice is
(a) Thurgood Marshall (b) Ted Kennedy (c) Joseph Biden
(d) Clarence Thomas
9. An aim of the Pan Africanist Congress is to
(a) end racial protest (b) unify anti-apartheid forces
(c) end sanctions against South Africa

Answers:
q (6) p (8) o (2) n (9) q (5) p (4) q (3) o (2) o (1)

In the wake of the highly publicized Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings, we were interested to learn what current events hold the attention of high school students long enough for them to gain a basic understanding of the issue. In conjunction with this question, the Shakerite distributed a current events "quiz" to a variety of social studies classes. Not surprisingly, only three percent of the students did not know that Clarence Thomas is our new Supreme Court Justice, but the other results are less straightforward. Take the time to take the test, and see how you rate compared to the statistics.

Marisha Auerbach contributed to the completion of this survey.

SHAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD

OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF THOSE SURVEYED

A (100% - 89% CORRECT)	36%
B (88% - 79% CORRECT)	20%
C (78% - 69% CORRECT)	18%
D (68% - 59% CORRECT)	13%
F (58% - 0% CORRECT)	13%

Results from Shakerite Survey of 250 students

QUESTION	% CORRECT
(1)	73%
(2)	83%
(3)	67%
(4)	87%
(5)	61%
(6)	71%
(7)	74%
(8)	97%
(9)	47%



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Answers are hard to come by... Drug concerns continue despite high hopes

BY NANAR TABRIZI

Staff Reporter

The egg shells are cracked and the butter sizzles. Besides being served along with your toast and orange juice, this demonstration has repeatedly communicated the message, "this is drugs, and this is your brain on drugs. Any questions?"

But the answer to the drug issue continues to be a dilemma in Shaker.

Although Shaker cannot be considered a haven for drug users, drugs are accessible to students.

"We have come to readily understand that there is drug accessibility at Shaker Square and Kinsman Road. Older brothers of Shaker students have also been known to supply younger siblings with drugs as well as alcohol," detective Michael Klima said.

Freshman Karla Griffin points to peer pressure as a circumstance which leads to drug abuse, but freshman Daryl Cleveland believes peer pressure serves as an excuse for the acceptance of drug use.

"[Peer pressure's] a lie from the start. I grew up in the projects. I was with the same problem, but I chose the right road," Cleveland said. "If you're doing it, it's your fault. No one makes you do what you don't want to."

Others were more sympathetic of the circumstances surrounding drug abuse.

"I really don't know why they do it, and I certainly don't agree, but I guess sometimes you can get into something where you don't think you have any other alternatives," junior Joanna Garcia said.

But many students, such as junior Joel Freimuth, agree that drugs are a serious issue to be contended with.

"I walked into the bathroom, saw a drug deal and decided that I would never have to go to the bathroom in school again," Freimuth said.

The prevalence of drug issues leads to continuous de-



Shakerite art by Jeff Michel

bate of whether the problems are diminishing.

Guidance counselor Bob Annandale said that the war on drugs, President George Bush's interdiction and enforcement program of keeping the drugs from entering the country, has driven up the cost of drugs and thus made their attainability more difficult.

Klima, crediting education geared toward younger ages, feels that drug use has decreased over the last five years.

Sixth grade Woodbury teacher, Nancy Seabrook, said there is a growing trend in drug education directed at younger students. She said the curriculum begins in kindergarten, emphasizing the difference between prescription drugs and illegal drugs, and extends through six grade, when the affects of peer pressure are demonstrated through role playing.

Senior Ernest Sims feels that the drug problem is not improving.

"The problem is definitely increasing," Sims said. "My acquaintances and I just heard about it two years ago and now some of my acquaintances are doing [drugs]."

Freimuth explained this difference of opinion as to a decline in the amount of drug use by saying that the awareness and visibility of drugs depends on one's individual activities.

"It's a different social circle," Freimuth said. "People can seclude themselves from drugs."

Youth Center counselor Diane Nichols said Shaker's problem is not easily visible and is somewhat contained.

"People that drive through Shaker don't see it to be a drug infested area, but it is," Nichols said. "In other schools, kids have to steal and do other things in order to buy drugs. A lot of kids here would just as soon go to their bank accounts."

Sophomore Geoff Goss said Shaker's tradition of excellence contributes to the lack of drug viability.

"Shaker has this big front of being good," Goss said. "It has a tradition of having excellent education. [The tradition] covers up a lot of serious problems."

Viewpoints like Goss's lead to a comparison of Shaker's drug problem to that of other schools.

"All people are people, and drugs have no respect for them," health teacher Hubert McIntyre said. "To say that there's less drug use here is like saying that problems don't exist here. People abuse drugs for a reason. People who live here have the same problems."

Thus the quest to alleviate an issue which has grasped both national and local attention prevails.

In the 80's, Nancy Reagan told us to 'just say no,' but in the 90's, the egg shell remains cracked.

Local organizations and programs which aid substance abusers:

- Alcoholics Anonymous
(24 hour answering service)
241-7387
- Alcoholism Services of Cleveland (Education, information, and referrals)
371-5656
- Laurelwood Hospital (call 24 hours for emergency services, consultations or program information)
953-3000
- Saint Vincent Charity Hospital and Health Center, Adolescent Dual Diagnosis
363-2666
- Saint Luke's Hospital, Adolescent Chemical Dependency Programs
368-7970
- Shaker Heights Youth Center (Located in room 23 of high school)
752-9292
- Windsor Hospital, Center for Psychiatric Health Care (24 hour helpline)
247-5300

Former user tackles sobriety one day at a time

BY SARAH STEWART

Feature Editor

In order to protect the anonymity of the Shaker student interviewed for this article, he will be referred to as "Mike."

At age 12 or 13, Mike had his first beer, hated the taste and poured it out so it would appear that he had drank it.

It was at a party at age 15 that he had his first experience with marijuana.

"I was at a party, and someone asked me if I wanted to get high," Mike said. "and I'd always wondered what it was like to get high."

"I liked it. I had fun," he said. "At the time I didn't really realize it, but I felt like I finally belonged."

After this party, Mike returned to the people who had provided him with the marijuana and asked for more.

"When I asked them [for marijuana the second time], I said 'let's get some more.' And they jokingly said, 'we've turned you into a drug addict.'

Although Mike said he had had friends, he realizes that at the beginning he saw drug use as a quick opportunity to fit in.

"I'd had friends, but I was lonely at times," Mike said. "I think I thought 'getting high gets you friends,' and I just jumped in."

After he became more heavily involved in drugs, using primarily marijuana but also LSD, Mike's life was in turn greatly influenced by the substances. He said that if a week went by without using drugs, he felt that something was missing.

Mike described a typical day during his three year period of drug abuse.

"I would go to school late. I'd get high on the way to school. If I went to class I'd probably fall asleep," he said. "Then I would come home. I'd go and hook up with my [drug using] friends and party with them."

While his drug abuse progressed, he remained at home with his mother and father.

"My family life sucked. I hated my family, and I hated myself," Mike said.

His brother once confronted him about his drug use, but Mike said he ignored his concern because he felt his brother, a drug user himself, was being hypocritical.

His parents recognized that Mike was displaying stereotypical characteristics of a drug addict, such as having new friends and neglecting previous interests, but Mike denied his addiction. If his parents lectured him, he said he basically told them he did drugs and would continue to, but he could stop anytime he so desired.

Although he cited marijuana as the drug he most frequently used, Mike considered LSD, or acid, his "drug of choice."

"I did [LSD] the first time and fell in love with it. I didn't do it [again] until more than three months later then I did it about 30 times in nine months," Mike said.

The second time he used LSD, Mike

this session and the next?" And of course I used," Mike said. "I went back and lied through the whole thing, and she suggested that I go to a 12 step meeting with my father."

Mike followed this recommendation and attended a meeting with his father.

"I didn't know what to expect," he said of his first meeting. "I thought it might be a bunch of old men."

His expectations proved wrong as he described the first speaker at the podium as a man with a pony-tail and wire rim glasses. And although he had gotten high that day and did not remember anything the speaker said, he said he was then able to discuss his drug use with his parents.

"It was weird, because after the first meeting, I went back and talked to my parents for two hours. I couldn't believe what I was telling them," Mike said.

66

It was weird, because after the first meeting, I went back and talked to my parents for two hours. I couldn't believe what I was telling them."

—Mike

was alone.

"I was in the corner, in the fetal position, and the walls were breathing," Mike said. "I had to have music on because the heater was saying my name. It scared me to a point, but I knew it wasn't really saying my name. It was the drug."

During the last three months of his LSD use, Mike said he was experiencing pain.

"It was so intense that it focused on my tooth. A couple of times I was just lying in bed, and my pores felt totally dried out. My body was in total pain, but I'd still do it," Mike said.

Following his father's confrontation with his own alcoholism, Mike's parents put him through a drug assessment through the Shaker Youth Center. He had one session, a week break, and then a final session.

"At the end of the first session, [the counselor] said, 'will you not use between

Mike credits these first meetings as being partly responsible for his sobriety.

"When I went to that [first] meeting and the one next, something clicked," Mike said.

And he's been sober since.

Although sober since Jan. 24, 1990, Mike said he continues to attend meetings three or four times a week.

"When I say I'll be sober for the rest of my life, that's too overwhelming. It's hard to comprehend being sober for the rest of my life," Mike said. "It's a lot easier to say, 'I'll stay sober today.'

Mike continues to take one day at a time, but presently appreciates his sober life.

"Before when I was using, I was wishing I was dead," Mike said. "I never attempted suicide because I couldn't physically harm myself, although I did with drugs, but sometimes I wished I wouldn't wake up in the morning. Now it's great to be alive."

LEL plans to increase membership in future

BY JEFF EPSTEIN
Staff Reporter

The addition of up to seven more teams to the Lake Erie League is a definite possibility, according to Assistant Principal Isaac Smith.

"We've tried to expand the league to take a two-tiered approach," Smith said.

The league would add more teams and then divide into two divisions within the LEL based upon school size, range and variety of athletic teams and ability to compete.

According to Principal Jack Rumbaugh, the principals, athletic directors, and assistant principals of the LEL schools have met and sent out advertisements which have been published in the Plain Dealer and the Sun Press. These ads requested schools to apply for admission into the LEL.

"The objective here is to pair the schools by size," Smith said, citing a "size of school disparity" in the current LEL.

Another reason to add more teams is to find schools which participate in the sports that Shaker does, such as soccer and lacrosse.

"We're looking for some schools that have good programming in their leagues," Smith said.

According to Athletic Director Jerry Masteller, both Mentor and Warrensville have applied.

"I personally would accept Mentor into the league despite its size," Masteller said.

Rumbaugh was also enthusiastic about Mentor's application.

"They offer the variety of athletic teams we have," he said. He also cited Mentor's competitive soccer, field hockey and lacrosse teams as positive reasons for joining the league.

Rumbaugh also talked about possible academic exchanges between Mentor and Shaker.

"I'm very interested in the opportunities for Mentor and Shaker to share teaching abilities as well as athletics."

According to Smith, the schools in the league would be divided up into two divisions. The smaller schools would be in one, and the larger schools in the other. Following the regular season, the champions of each division would compete for a league championship. The divisions would be reorganized after each year as well, so that the more competitive smaller schools could move into the big school division.

"Ability wise the divisions will be reorganized from one season to the other," Smith said.

Smith also cited problems with a lack of interested schools.

"The problem we're having right now is that we are only getting one or two teams that apply...what we are going to have to do is to pluck some teams out of their leagues and see if they will consider joining," Smith said.

The positive reasons for adding teams, according to Smith, are to make scheduling easier, to make the league more geographically close and to establish better competition.

Hoop squad ready to win

BY JOEL VANARSDALE AND CLAY WEINER
Advertising Manager and Staff Reporter



BASKETBALL

Like a pack of wild dogs claiming its territory, the Shaker varsity basketball team is back to defend four years of LEL dominance.

"We're top dogs in this league, which is hard to hold," Coach Bob Wonson said. "There's no way we are going to lose this without going down fighting."

With a record of 93-14 over the last four years, Shaker has formed a basketball dynasty.

"We have our work cut out for us to repeat as league champs," Wonson said.

Senior Antjuan Taylor said the one key to continuing the team's success is senior leadership.

Taylor was also confident that the seniors should provide the team with the needed leadership.

"Having had a year of varsity experience, the seniors should be able to step up," he said.

Senior Quinn Chambers agreed with Taylor and cited determination and a positive attitude as keys to victory.

"We need to keep a positive attitude to win," he said.

Returning seniors include Chambers, Jerome Griffith, Malcolm Sims, Taylor, and Kyle Withers. Sims, who led the team last year with a 22.5 points-per-game average, said that his three previous years on the team will help make up for the lack of his teammates' experience.

"The seniors haven't had much experience, so I will have to lead them that much more," Sims said. "I feel after three years, I have something special to show."

According to Wonson, Sims, who had arthroscopic knee surgery in August and has now recovered, is the only returning player to average over six points per game last year. Taylor is next on the team with an average of five points per game.

"We need people to step up and score this year," Wonson said.

With the loss of point guard Doug Underwood and center Deshaun King, who graduated last year, Chambers, sophomore Marcus King and Withers will try to fill the empty positions.

"Marky (Marcus King) and Quinn will help contribute this year," Sims added.

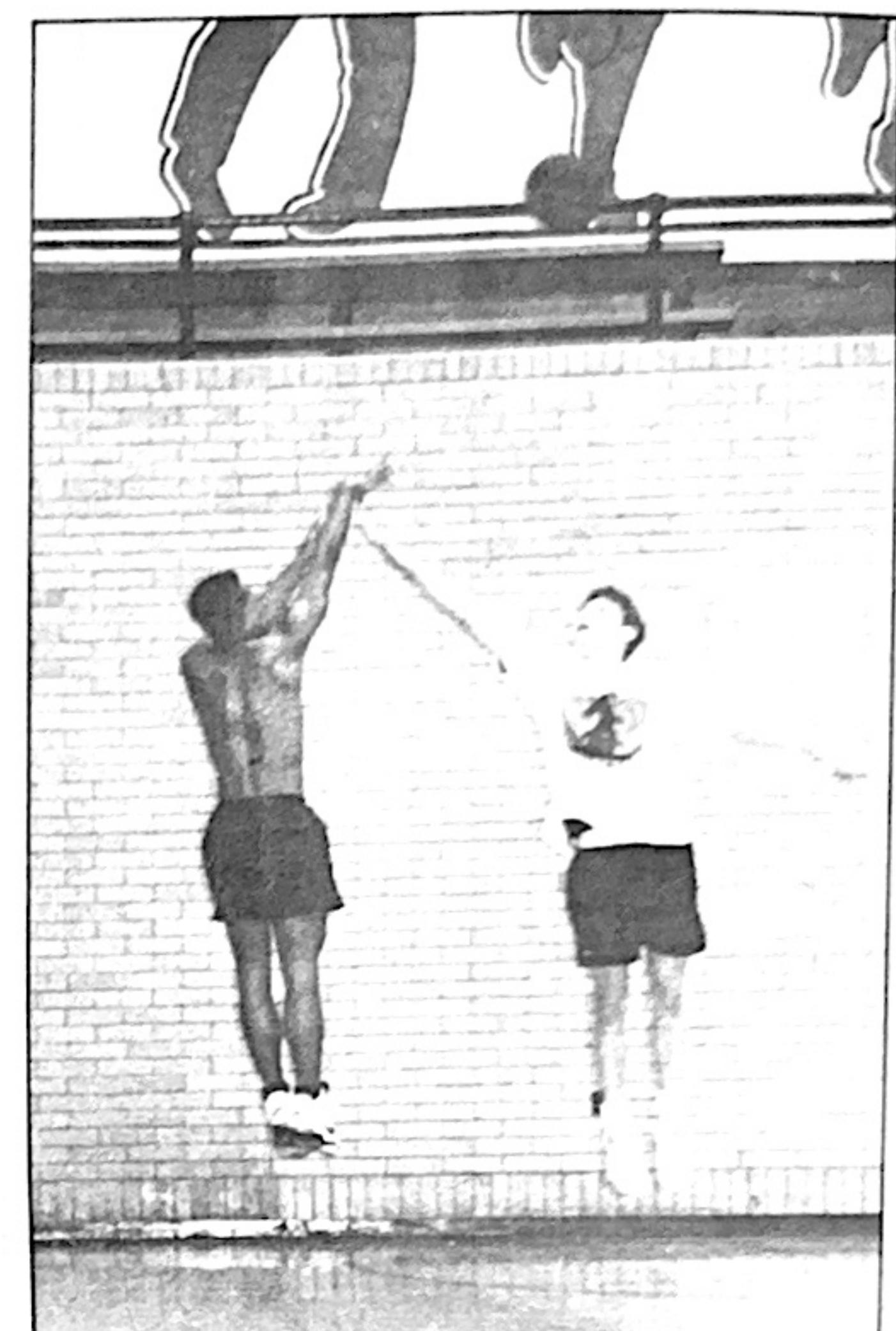
Martin MacDonald, a former Shaker basketball player who worked out with the team this summer, has high hopes for the players who will attempt to match Underwood's and King's strong performances last year.

"I like the guard combination this year. I think they may even be better than last year," MacDonald said.

In his 22nd year of coaching, Wonson has made basketball a large part of his life.

"It's a great commitment to coach a varsity sport," Wonson said. "I feel I have to budget my time and usually I go from November to March feeling tired."

Even in the off-season, Wonson remained busy by



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Senior Antjuan Taylor plays one-on-one with a player from Beachwood. The basketball team will scrimmage against other schools before their season starts.

Photo by Sam Schmidt

participating in coaches conferences as well as attending the Mt. Union Century Camp, the training site of the basketball team over the summer.

"If you want a good program you must train in the off-season," Wonson said.

According to Wonson, the preparation over the summer will be needed as they face some of the toughest LEL competition in years.

"Valley Forge is the LEL favorite, returning four of their five starters," said Wonson. "Cleveland Heights is also much improved, returning all five of last year's starters."

Wonson said, however, that the stiffest opponent in basketball is one's self—to be the best player possible.

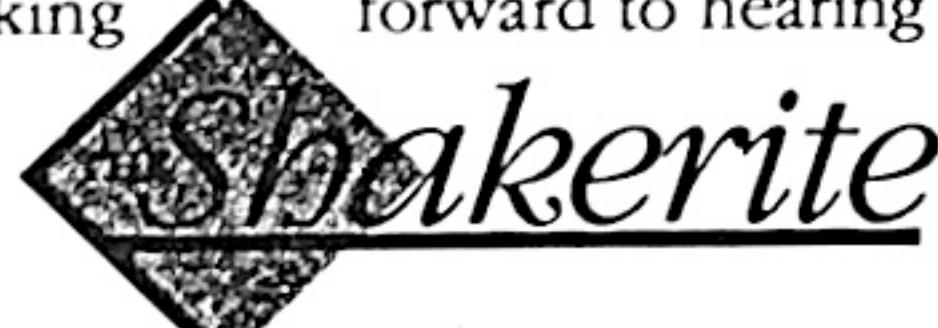
According to Wonson, the team has high expectations for this season.

"Our goals are to play hard and play together," he said. "The wins will take care of themselves."

The team's first practice will be Nov. 18 and their first game will be Dec. 6, when they play Elyria.

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Juniors will lead hockey team

BY MARK SMITH
Staff Reporter

The Shaker ice hockey team, despite losing 12 seniors, is pinning its hopes for a successful season on its junior members.

The team captain, senior Brian Hegyes, admitted that the team will experience some difficulties this season compared to last year's team, which made it to the state playoffs.

"I think it will be a tough season. We lost a lot of seniors," Hegyes said.

He believed, however, that the team will do well because of its junior players.

"We have a lot of good returning juniors that have been on the team since they were freshmen," he said.

These players include juniors Scott Frierichs, Ari Chopra, and assistant captains Chris Brown and Chris Lockrem, according to Hegyes. He also mentioned senior Todd Federman as a strong player.

Coach Mike Bartley said the team is strong defensively, but declined to admit that working for a stronger offense is a key priority.

"Seeking a balance between the offense and defense is what we strive for," Bartley said.

But Bartley suggested the offense was not as strong as last year's.

"This [year's team] is not a team that will be known as a powerhouse offense," he said.

Junior Chris Brown agreed.

"Offensively, the team is not as big this year," he said.

But he mentioned that Lockrem and Chopra, both juniors, will improve the team's chances of scoring.

"Chris [Lockrem] and Ari Chopra are juniors that were on the team last year but were playing in the shadows of the seniors," Brown said.

But Hegyes, Bartley and Brown all said that this year's younger players have improved over last season.

"A lot of our young defensive players are better than I thought," Hegyes said.

This is one reason the defense will be strong this year, according to Hegyes. But Brown stated that another factor that will help the team defensively is the playing ability of Hegyes.

However, two ice hockey players that are not returning have made the Junior Barons hockey team. This is a group of approximately 20 players ranging in age from teenagers to 20-year-old college students. The team is coached by Bob McNamara, a former Buffalo Sabres player.

According to junior Alex Gordon and senior Geoff Grim, the two players representing Shaker on

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Stroking to success...

Mens, womens swim teams completing laps to victory

BY WILL GLASSON
Staff Reporter

As you pass through the long, white hallway and near the door, you are overcome by the smell of chlorine and the sounds of Van Morrison and the Beatles. You open the door to find people dressed in bikini-wear, carrying multi-colored eye pieces. Silently creeping from his frigid office, a balding, determined-looking man greets you and beckons you in.

The man is Ernest Welsch, coach of both the mens and womens swim teams, and the bizarre scene you have just witnessed is commonly referred to as practice by members of the teams.

Welsch, a gym teacher at Woodbury, started the womens swim program in '82 and has coached it ever since. He has coached the mens since '88.

"We emphasize the individual progress rather than competitiveness against other teams or swimmers," Welsch said.

He attributed this and "a lot of hard work" to the teams' success in previous years. Their success includes capturing and defending the LEL title from Cleveland Heights, by the men and women, respectively, and sending numerous swimmers to both district and state meets.

"The team is really strong; we have a lot of quality swimmers and should do well at districts," senior P.J. Goehler said.

According to Welsch, this year's teams are comprised of many young players which

will make winning harder to achieve.

"We have a young team," Welsch said, "which will make it difficult to equal the performance of last year, and this places more stress on the freshmen who, depending on how they perform, will in part determine the teams' success."

There are eight returning seniors, four on each team: Jennifer Ehlen, Jennifer Friedman, Tara Smith and Whitney Vail for the women, and John Bohl, Bill Fiordalis, Chris Petrus and Goehler for the men.

Swimming is a very demanding sport, according to Welsch, who believes attending practice at least once a day for six days a week is crucial. "Swimming takes a lot of hard work and if you don't put forth the effort you won't succeed," he said.

The daily regimen, developed by Welsch, includes work both in and out of the pool. Practices in the pool are between two and two and a half hours long. The total swimming per practice can reach 9000 yards (which is five miles or 360 laps) during mid season. Dry land or power training (free weights and Nautilus) are also an integral part of training, according to Welsch.

Over winter break, both teams are planning a training trip to Coral Springs, Florida, between Dec. 26 and Jan. 5. Several fund-raising activities have already taken place, including a swim-a-thon and rummage sale to help pay for the \$450 per-person fee.

Overwhelming support for the team has come from the parents of the swimmers and the community, which, said Welsch, filters to the swimmers and provides more incentive for the swimmers to try their hardest and achieve.



THE HUMAN PERISCOPE. A member of the women's swim team comes up for air and checks her position while practicing her breast stroke. Both the mens and womens teams' seasons will begin on Nov. 22.

Photo by Sam Schmidt

for the swimmers to try their hardest and achieve.

"Support for the team is incredible," said '91 graduate, Jenny Sullivan. "Without it the team couldn't function and be as good as it is."

Welsch spends from 5:30 am to 7:30 pm each weekday instructing the swim teams and the Shaker Sharks (also started by Welsch), a United States Swimming sanctioned team, which provides "runoff," or future swimmers, for the high school team.

Overall Welsch is happy with the team and expressed a lot of praise for it.

"We have many talented athletes," he said. "The bottom line is the team is a super group with a good sense of humor; in essence, good people which makes coaching more enjoyable."

Senior Tara Smith believed her dedication to swimming is well worth her time.

"When you finally come down to the season's end, it's really worth it when you swim your best time," she said.

We need more rejuvenated fields, not bigger league

BY ANTHONY SWERTHOFF
Sports Editor

After cons of stagnation, our administration has finally attempted to upgrade our athletic department.

They have taken two steps: improving our playing fields and attempting to augment the membership of the Lake Erie League. I agree with the first step, but argue with the second.

A decent baseball field, a level football field and a usable track are in store for our teams, a relief to all those that believed the nightmare of horrendous athletic facilities would never end.

I am certainly glad that the baseball diamond is remodeled and almost finished, for it needed a major face lift.

It is not easy to play the sport when rocks inhabit the infield and make fielding a grounder a terrifying experience. These stones, ranging from pebbles to mini meteors, had a habit of leaving their resting places and rocketing toward a player, heading on a collision course to the face or the...well,

private areas.

Furthermore, after a "rocky" game, no one had the luxury of quenching their thirst (or pain) with nature's essence, water. The fountain simply never worked.

Beginning this spring, all teams utilizing this field will have access to a plush, verdant infield, fenced-in dugouts and not one, but two, water fountains.

The administration has heard the cries of the players that run in circles, the players that score touchdowns and the players that hit homers and has finally done something. It is about time.

The interest in adding on to the LEL is a different ballgame. A ballgame which Shaker should have begun with a different strategy.

Naturally, we want stronger competition, both to encourage our players to train harder and to cover up our many disasterous losses by emphasizing the Goliath-like strengths of our opponents.

Unfortunately, the remaining concepts

and goals of the expansion need major revisions.

First, it is proposed that the league would divide into two divisions, and the champions of each would compete for the coveted LEL title upon the conclusion of the season. So far, so good.

At season's end, smaller and more competitive schools could move into the big-school division. Strangely, it is thought that this concept would create no confusion. I see it differently.

If a school shuffles from one division to the next, year in and year out, it would be an understatement to say that everything would be discombobulated.

Every Shaker team might be in a different division and the idea of changing divisions would surface so often that I will be inclined to think this term to be a new math concept. Another thing I could not handle.

So, by adding teams but keeping them all together would be the first step toward

making us all happy campers.

Secondly, it is believed this expansion will make the league more geographically close.

If anything, this new league will cover greater areas by attracting schools beyond the present-day "boundaries" of the league.

The LEL should concentrate on plucking out teams from nearby leagues. After all, I have always longed to see schools like Beachwood smeared with a little of our own Raider touch-up paint more often.

Thirdly, the idea of teacher exchanges with schools like Mentor does not seem to satiate my search for a quality education.

We all have our qualms with the teachers at this high school and bringing in outsiders would only aggravate us more. Also, these exchanges might ruin our school pride and ego, by allowing "foreigners" to catch a glimpse of our perfect educational system.

Our administration is on the right track to revitalizing Shaker's athletic potential. Now, they need to straighten out their plans for LEL expansion to complete their overdue "homework." Only then will we be satisfied—that is to say, happy campers.

SPORTS COLUMN

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SPORTS BRIEFS

VARSITY FOOTBALL

The varsity football team's season ended with two wins and eight losses, an improvement over last year.

"We are headed in the right direction, but we have a long way to go," Coach Mark Leimsieder said.

Sophomore Michael Summers summed up the season, which included the win over Parma, snapping the team's 13-game losing streak under Leimsieder.

"I think that the season went well for such a young football team," he said. "Some of the games we lost were against Heights and Shaw, and we were tied until the fourth quarter, which is good."

MENS SOCCER

Despite ending with a 11-4-2 record, the mens soccer team failed to advance in post-season play.

"I think our season was very productive and our effort was outstanding," sophomore

paid off, especially for the younger players.

"The coaches were motivating," freshman Jenny Grossman said. "I learned a lot from the older players."

For the first time in Shaker tennis' history, three freshman will receive a varsity letter: Masha Chetyrkina, Rebecca Horst and Jackie Ruffing.

VOLLEYBALL

After 15 games, the volleyball team completed their season, with 10 wins and

five losses.

"I think our season went wonderfully compared to the last few seasons that I've been in," junior Ann Zambie said.

Coach David Lubinger complimented the players' teamwork and said it was a contributing factor to the team's strong season.

"They supported each other and that was why we were so successful," he said.

MENS CROSS COUNTRY

Ending the season with a dismal 1-7 record, sophomore Terrin Martin was disappointed with the team's performance.

"We could have done better than we did," he said.

WOMENS CROSS COUNTRY

With an addition of seven more runners this year, the womens cross country team finished with a 4-2 record. No players returned from last year.

"It was a fantastic season considering that the entire team was new," Coach Henry Woodard said.

Sophomore Julie Nemecek agreed with Woodard and looked forward to next season.

"Our season went well," she said. "Because we were all beginners, we are all going to work really hard over the summer for next year."

Hockey

FROM PAGE 14

the team, most of the players are of college age.

"Most of the kids are out of high school. Age has nothing to do with it [although there is an age limit of 20]. It is the level of talent [that is the deciding factor]," Gordon said.

"There are six kids on the team," said Grim. "Most of the players are from Cleveland State [University]."

But many of the players are not even from the Cleveland area, according to Gordon.

"There is a kid from Toledo, Maryland and one is from Eric," he said.

Gordon also said that the Junior Barons do not host other teams from the area.

"The teams from the league are mostly from New York," he said.

The team's "home" games take place in Parma, Gordon said. Grim stated that the coach of the team is Bob McNamara, a former Buffalo Sabres player. He also said that the season began in August and will end in March.

Gordon said the level of play in the Junior Barons is much higher than regular high school play.

"There are just more scouts and it is a lot rougher," he added.

Grim agreed.

"In a junior [league] the hockey's better. In Ohio, high school hockey's not too great as junior and prep school hockey," he said.

Grim said that he gains much experience from being on the team.

"It will help me play in college," he said. "And the college scouts will see me play. Without this chance to be seen most of the college teams [searching for high school players] look for Canadian players."

Grim also said there was a lot of competition to make the team. "There were a lot of people hoping to make the team, and I made it," he said.

Neither Grim nor Gordon can play high school hockey while playing with the Junior Barons. But junior Chris Brown still feels Shaker has a chance of making the playoffs.

"We have the potential to run with it," he said.

SHAKER RAIDERS WRAP-UP

Team	Record	Final LEL standing
VARSITY		
Mens Soccer	11-4-2	1st place
Womens Soccer	2-13-1	not in league
Football	2-8	5th place
Mens Cross Country	1-7	6th place
Womens Cross Country	4-2	3rd place
Volleyball	11-6	3rd place
Field Hockey	7-3-2	state champions
Womens Tennis	14-8	2nd place
Golf	19-8	2nd place
JUNIOR VARSITY		
Mens Soccer	5-7-1	3rd place
Football	1-8	no league standing
3rd Team Field Hockey	3-4	no league standing
Womens Tennis	9-6	no league standing
FRESHMAN		
Football	8-0	1st place

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association



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